

## FREEDOM OF RESIDENCE AND MOVEMENT

*Freedom of Residence*

During the Commission's 2017 reporting year, the Chinese government continued to restrict the freedom of residence of Chinese citizens through the use of the household registration (*hukou*) system, established in 1958.<sup>1</sup> The *hukou* system classifies Chinese citizens as rural or urban, conferring certain legal rights and access to public services based on the classification.<sup>2</sup> Implementation of this system discriminates against rural *hukou* holders and migrants to urban areas by denying them equal access to public benefits and services enjoyed by registered urban residents, including housing, education, and social insurance.<sup>3</sup> The *hukou* system contravenes international human rights standards guaranteeing freedom of residence and prohibiting discrimination on the basis of "national or social origin, . . . birth or other status."<sup>4</sup>

The Chinese government continued to implement reforms to residence policies, including the *hukou* and residence permit systems. *Hukou* reform, including the expansion to new urban residents and migrants of public benefits traditionally tied to *hukou* status, remained a policy goal for the Chinese government, as outlined in several national-level policy documents.<sup>5</sup> In line with previous policy pronouncements aimed at increasing China's rate of urbanization,<sup>6</sup> in September 2016, the State Council issued a plan building on previous efforts to facilitate 100 million residents in obtaining urban *hukou* by 2020.<sup>7</sup> The plan also calls for 45 percent of the population to have urban *hukou* by 2020.<sup>8</sup> According to a February 2017 National Bureau of Statistics of China report, at the end of 2016, China's urban population stood at over 792.9 million people, or 57.4 percent of the population;<sup>9</sup> 41.2 percent of the population were urban residents with urban-registered *hukou*.<sup>10</sup>

After the State Council issued national provisional regulations on residence permits that took effect in January 2016,<sup>11</sup> at least 29 provincial-level jurisdictions had reportedly issued implementing measures for residence permits as of August 2017.<sup>12</sup> The Ministry of Public Security (MPS) reportedly announced that provincial- and local-level governments issued more than 28.9 million residence permits nationwide in 2016.<sup>13</sup> The MPS also reportedly announced that provincial and local authorities nationwide abolished all previous temporary residence permit systems (*zanzhuzheng*) and replaced them with the newer residence permit systems (*juzhuzheng*).<sup>14</sup>

In February 2017, the MPS reportedly confirmed a State Council decision<sup>15</sup> that urban areas with fewer than 3 million permanent residents would not be permitted under *hukou* reform policies to implement points systems to determine applicants' eligibility for obtaining local *hukou*.<sup>16</sup> These systems assign values, determined by local governments, to migrants based on factors including education level, contributions to social insurance, and preferred work experience.<sup>17</sup> Urban areas with populations above 3 million will be able to keep points systems and tighter restrictions on migrants' ability to apply for local *hukou*.<sup>18</sup> A draft Beijing municipality planning document, for example, proposed setting a cap on Beijing's population at 23 million in 2020.<sup>19</sup>

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While some policymakers recognized the difficulties migrant workers face in settling in large cities and obtaining *hukou* or residence permits there, as well as the need to relax restrictions on in-migration,<sup>20</sup> policy experts noted that existing proposals to reform the *hukou* and residence permit systems did not meaningfully address disparities in rural and urban status, especially as many rural-to-urban migrants seek economic opportunity in larger cities where in-migration remained strictly controlled.<sup>21</sup>

### *International Travel*

Chinese authorities continued to deny some citizens who criticized the government, those citizens' relatives and associates, and others—including ethnic minorities—their internationally recognized right to leave the country. Article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which China has signed and committed to ratify,<sup>22</sup> provides that “[e]veryone shall be free to leave any country . . . .”<sup>23</sup> Under Article 12, countries may restrict this right, but only “to protect national security, public order” and other select public interests.<sup>24</sup> Chinese laws grant officials the authority to prevent from leaving the country those deemed threatening to state security or whose “exit from China is not allowed.”<sup>25</sup> Chinese officials used this authority to arbitrarily keep government critics, rights defenders, and others from leaving China.<sup>26</sup> The Commission observed the following representative cases during the 2017 reporting year:

- Chinese authorities continued<sup>27</sup> to restrict the travel rights of individuals in connection with a nationwide crackdown on public interest lawyers and rights advocates that began in or around July 2015.<sup>28</sup> For example, in March 2017, public security authorities in Shaanxi province refused to issue rights defender **Lu Dongli** a passport or permit to travel to Hong Kong or Macau, reportedly in connection with his support for detainees in the July 2015 crackdown as well as his interviews with foreign media about the crackdown.<sup>29</sup>
- Beginning in October 2016, public security officials in several county-level jurisdictions of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) reportedly ordered residents of those areas to turn in their passports to authorities.<sup>30</sup> Officials also required residents to apply for approval before traveling abroad.<sup>31</sup> Rights organizations criticized the passport confiscations as restricting the movement of XUAR residents<sup>32</sup> and serving as “collective punishment.”<sup>33</sup> In 2017, officials in some XUAR jurisdictions also reportedly ordered around 200,000 ethnic Kazakhs to turn in their passports and Kazakhstan permanent residence permits, though officials subsequently returned at least some of the documents.<sup>34</sup> [For more information, see Section IV—Xinjiang—Freedom of Movement.]
- Chinese authorities threatened Tibetans who traveled, or planned to travel, to India to participate in a January 2017 religious gathering led by the Dalai Lama.<sup>35</sup> Officials in some parts of Gansu, Qinghai, and Sichuan provinces seized passports from Tibetan residents to prevent them from traveling.<sup>36</sup> Chinese authorities in some Tibetan areas destroyed the reli-

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gious pilgrims' passports upon their return to China and questioned them about their activities in India.<sup>37</sup>

- In March 2017, Chinese authorities prevented **Feng Chongyi**, a Chinese citizen and Australian permanent resident, from leaving China after he spent several weeks conducting research on Chinese rights lawyers.<sup>38</sup> Border control officials in Guangzhou municipality, Guangdong province, detained Feng on March 24 at the Guangzhou airport; authorities later held him at a Guangzhou hotel.<sup>39</sup> Feng's lawyer said that authorities accused Feng of "threatening national security," and surmised that the travel restrictions were due to Feng's research on rights lawyers detained in the crackdown beginning in or around July 2015.<sup>40</sup> Authorities allowed Feng to return to Australia in early April.<sup>41</sup> Feng told Australian media that his detention was meant to deter other academics from researching "sensitive issues or sensitive topics" related to China.<sup>42</sup>

- In March 2017, Chinese authorities reportedly prevented several dozen mainland Chinese residents from traveling to Hong Kong to participate in a history seminar on the 1950s Anti-Rightist Movement.<sup>43</sup> Chinese authorities used a variety of means to dissuade or prevent seminar participants from attending, including confiscating their travel permits.<sup>44</sup>

### *Domestic Movement*

During this reporting year, the Commission observed reports of Chinese government officials punishing rights advocates and their families and associates, and targeting members of some ethnic minority groups, by restricting their freedom of movement domestically. Article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provides that "[e]veryone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement . . ."<sup>45</sup> Authorities increased restrictions on freedom of movement during politically sensitive periods, including before and during the May 2017 Belt and Road Initiative forum in Beijing municipality<sup>46</sup> and the June 2017 anniversary of the 1989 Tiananmen protests.<sup>47</sup>

During the March 2017 meetings of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in Beijing ("Two Sessions"), Chinese authorities repeatedly seized or detained critics of the government as well as petitioners who sought meetings in Beijing with government officials, temporarily restricting their movement and sometimes forcibly returning them to their places of residence.<sup>48</sup> During this time, authorities sent some individuals on "forced travel" (*bei luyou*), compelling them to leave their places of residence and preventing them from traveling to politically sensitive areas, especially Beijing.<sup>49</sup> For example, authorities in Qianjiang municipality, Hubei province, forced former independent local people's congress candidate Yao Lifa to leave Qianjiang during the Two Sessions, reportedly moving him between five different provinces for 18 days before allowing him to return to Qianjiang.<sup>50</sup> Local authorities sometimes held these individuals in "black jails" (*hei jianyu*), a form of extralegal confinement.<sup>51</sup> Authorities also continued restrictions on the movement of lawyers,

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particularly lawyers who have worked on behalf of rights advocates or political prisoners, such as Liu Zhengqing<sup>52</sup> and Chen Jian'gang.<sup>53</sup> Before the May 2017 trial of Chen's former client Xie Yang, authorities in Yunnan province briefly detained Chen and his family, later forcibly escorting him back to Beijing.<sup>54</sup>

Tibetans, Uyghurs, and other residents of ethnic minority areas in particular faced strict controls on their freedom of movement. Tibetans and residents of Tibetan areas had restrictions placed on their freedom of movement around the time of the March 2017 anniversary of the 1959 Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule, including the imposition of requirements on some Tibetans to obtain local government approval for local travel.<sup>55</sup> In February 2017, authorities in Gansu province prevented more than one thousand Tibetans from traveling to participate in a Tibetan Buddhist gathering at Kirti Monastery in Aba (Ngaba) county, Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan province.<sup>56</sup> Security officials in Bayinguoleng (Bayingol) Mongol Autonomous Prefecture, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, reportedly ordered all drivers to have satellite navigation systems installed in their cars by June 30, 2017,<sup>57</sup> effectively allowing authorities to surveil drivers.<sup>58</sup> Authorities characterized the order as a counter-terrorism measure.<sup>59</sup> [For more information on government restrictions on Uyghurs and Tibetans, see Section IV—Xinjiang and Section V—Tibet.]

### Notes to Section II—Freedom of Residence and Movement

<sup>1</sup>National People's Congress Standing Committee, PRC Regulations on Household Registration [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo hukou dengji tiaoli], issued and effective 9 January 58.

<sup>2</sup>Kam Wing Chan, "Crossing the 50 Percent Population Rubicon: Can China Urbanize to Prosperity?" *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, Vol. 53, No. 1 (2012), 67; Spencer Sheehan, "China's Hukou Reforms and the Urbanization Challenge," *The Diplomat*, 22 February 17.

<sup>3</sup>Kam Wing Chan, "Crossing the 50 Percent Population Rubicon: Can China Urbanize to Prosperity?" *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, Vol. 53, No. 1 (2012), 67; UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Concluding Observations on the Second Periodic Report of China, Including Hong Kong, China, and Macao, China, adopted by the Committee at its 40th Meeting (23 May 2014), E/C.12/CHN/CO/2, 13 June 14, para. 15. See also Ming Lu and Yiran Xia, "Migration in the People's Republic of China," *Asian Development Bank Institute, ADBI Working Paper Series*, No. 593, September 2016, 3, 5–7; Mark Magnier, "Apartheid Without the Racism: How China Keeps Rural Folks Down," *Wall Street Journal*, 24 April 17.

<sup>4</sup>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI) of 16 December 66, entry into force 23 March 76, arts. 2(1), 12(1), 12(3), 26; Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted and proclaimed by UN General Assembly resolution 217A (III) of 10 December 48, arts. 2, 13(1); UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Concluding Observations on the Second Periodic Report of China, Including Hong Kong, China, and Macao, China, adopted by the Committee at its 40th Meeting (23 May 2014), E/C.12/CHN/CO/2, 13 June 14, para. 15; UN Human Rights Council, Reports of the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights on His Mission to China, Philip Alston, A/HRC/35/26/Add.2, 28 March 17, paras. 27–28.

<sup>5</sup>See, e.g., State Council, Opinion on Further Carrying Out Household Registration System Reform [Guowuyuan guanyu jinyibu tuijin huji zhidu gaige de yijian], issued 24 July 14, 1(9); State Council, Provisional Regulations on Residence Permits [Juzhuzheng zhanxing tiaoli], issued 26 November 15, effective 1 January 16, arts. 1, 2; State Council Information Office, "National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2016–2020)" [Guojia renquan xingdong jihua (2016–2020 nian)], 29 September 16, sec. 1(2), 1(3).

<sup>6</sup>PRC Central People's Government, "National New-Type Urbanization Plan (2014–2020)" [Guojia xinxing chengzhenhua guihua (2014–2020 nian)], 16 March 14; State Council, Certain Opinions on Deeply Carrying Out New-Type Urbanization Construction [Guowuyuan guanyu shenru tuijin xinxing chengzhenhua jianshe de ruogan yijian], issued 2 February 16; State Council, Opinion on Further Carrying Out Household Registration System Reform [Guowuyuan guanyu jinyibu tuijin huji zhidu gaige de yijian], issued 24 July 14.

<sup>7</sup>State Council General Office, "Plan Promoting 100 Million Individuals in Cities Without Household Registration To Obtain Hukou" [Tuidong 1 yi fei huji renkou zai chengshi luohu fang'an], issued 30 September 16.

<sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*, 1(3).

<sup>9</sup>National Bureau of Statistics of China, "People's Republic of China 2016 National Economic and Social Development Statistical Bulletin" [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo 2016 nian guomin jingji he shehui fazhan tongji gongbao], 28 February 17.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*; Liu Yizhan, "China's Household Registration System Reform Makes Major Progress" [Woguo huji zhidu gaige qude zhongda jinzhan], *Xinhua*, 11 February 17.

<sup>11</sup>State Council, Provisional Regulations on Residence Permits [Juzhuzheng zhanxing tiaoli], issued 26 November 15, effective 1 January 16.

<sup>12</sup>Han Pengfei, "Ministry of Public Security: Full Coverage of Residence Permit System To Be Implemented Within the Year" [Gong'anbu: juzhuzheng zhidu yu nian nei shixian quan fugai], *China Macroeconomic Information Network*, 8 August 17; "Residence Permit System To Achieve Full Coverage Within the Year" [Juzhuzheng zhidu quan fugai jiang yu nian nei shixian], *Xinhua*, 6 August 17. See, e.g., Chongqing Municipal People's Government, Chongqing Municipality Implementing Measures for Residence Permits [Chongqing shi juzhuzheng shishi banfa], issued 18 September 16; Henan Province People's Government, Henan Provincial Implementing Measures for Residence Permits [Henan sheng juzhuzheng shishi banfa], issued 8 December 16.

<sup>13</sup>Liu Yizhan, "China's Household Registration System Reform Makes Major Progress" [Woguo huji zhidu gaige qude zhongda jinzhan], *Xinhua*, 11 February 17.

<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>15</sup>State Council General Office, "Plan Promoting 100 Million Individuals in Cities Without Household Registration To Obtain Hukou" [Tuidong 1 yi fei huji renkou zai chengshi luohu fang'an], issued 30 September 16, (6).

<sup>16</sup>"Ministry of Public Security: Urban Areas With Under 3 Million Permanent Residents May Not Implement Points Systems for Obtaining Hukou" [Gong'anbu: chengqu changzhu renkou 300 wan yixia chengshi bude shishi jifen luohu], *Caixin*, 9 February 17.

<sup>17</sup>Spencer Sheehan, "China's Hukou Reforms and the Urbanization Challenge," *The Diplomat*, 22 February 17; Zhou Dongxu, "China Democratic League Central Committee: Propose Abolishing 'Invisible Threshold' for Migrant Workers Settling in Cities" [Minmeng zhongyang: jianyi xiaochu nongmingong luohu chengzhen de "yinxing menkan"], *Caixin*, 9 March 17.

<sup>18</sup>"Ministry of Public Security: Urban Areas With Under 3 Million Permanent Residents May Not Implement Points Systems for Obtaining Hukou" [Gong'anbu: chengqu changzhu renkou 300 wan yixia chengshi bude shishi jifen luohu], *Caixin*, 9 February 17.

<sup>19</sup>Kong Xiangxin and Luo Xiaoguang, "Beijing Municipality Master Plan (2016–2030) Set To Begin Public Comment Period" ["Beijing chengshi zongti guihua (2016 nian–2030 nian)" bianzhi jinru zhengqiu gongzhong yijian jieduan], *Xinhua*, 28 March 17; Lucy Hornby, "Beijing's Migrants No Longer Welcome as City Caps Population," *Financial Times*, 20 April 17.

<sup>20</sup>Huang Ziyi, "Deputy Cai Jiming: Large Cities Should Relax Restrictions on Population Size" [Cai jiming daibiao: da chengshi ying fangkai renkou guimo xianzhi], *Caixin*, 3 March 17; Zhou

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<sup>21</sup> Cara Wallis, “Hukou Reform and China’s Migrant Workers,” University of Nottingham, China Policy Institute: Analysis (blog), 10 October 16; Juan Chen et al., “Beyond Hukou Reform: Enhancing Human-Centered Urbanization in China,” Paulson Institute, 23 February 17, 6–7.

<sup>22</sup> United Nations Treaty Collection, Chapter IV, Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, last visited 13 July 17; State Council Information Office, “National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2016–2020)” [Guojia renquan xingdong jihua (2016–2020 nian)], 29 September 16, sec. 5.

<sup>23</sup> International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI) of 16 December 66, entry into force 23 March 76, art. 12(2).

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, art. 12(3).

<sup>25</sup> PRC Passport Law [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo huzhao fa], issued 29 April 06, effective 1 January 07, art. 13(7); PRC Exit and Entry Administration Law [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo chujing rujing guanli fa], issued 30 June 12, effective 1 July 13, art. 12(5).

<sup>26</sup> See, e.g., “Christian Pastor Accused of [Being] ‘Falun Gong,’ Denied Issuance of Passport and Hong Kong-Macau Travel Permit” [Jidujiao mushi bei zhi “falun gong” ju fa huzhao ji gang’ao tongxing zheng], Radio Free Asia, 16 November 16; “Pastor Zhang Chongzhu Prevented From Leaving Country” [Zhang chongzhu mushi bei xianzhi chujing], Radio Free Asia, 13 June 17; “China Demands Ethnic Kazakh Nationals Hand Over Passports, Hundreds of Thousands Unable To Unite With Family” [Zhongguo yaoqiu hasakezu guomin jiao hui huzhao shu shiwan ren wufa yu jieren tuanju], Radio Free Asia, 13 June 17.

<sup>27</sup> CECC, 2016 Annual Report, 6 October 16, 170–71.

<sup>28</sup> Rights Defense Network, “Jiangsu Rights Defender Xu Qin Blocked From Traveling to Hong Kong, Shaanxi’s Lu Dongli Denied Common Passport and HK–Macau Travel Permit on Suspicion of Involvement in ‘July 9’ Incident” [Jiangsu weiquan renshi xu qin chujing fu xianggang bei zu shaanxi lu dongli shexian canyu “709” shijian bu yu qianfa putong huzhao he gang’ao tongxingzheng], 15 March 17; “Two Rights Defenders Prohibited From Leaving Country To Go to Hong Kong” [Liang weiquan renshi bei jin chujing dao xianggang], Radio Free Asia, 15 March 17; Rights Defense Network, “Feng Zhenghu: The Tribulations of China’s Lawyers—42 Lawyers and Others Prevented From Leaving Country” [Feng zhenghu: zhongguo lushi de zaoyu—42 ming lushi deng ren bei xianzhi chujing], 2 July 17.

<sup>29</sup> Rights Defense Network, “Jiangsu Rights Defender Xu Qin Blocked From Traveling to Hong Kong, Shaanxi’s Lu Dongli Denied Common Passport and HK–Macau Travel Permit on Suspicion of Involvement in ‘July 9’ Incident” [Jiangsu weiquan renshi xu qin chujing fu xianggang bei zu shaanxi lu dongli shexian canyu “709” shijian bu yu qianfa putong huzhao he gang’ao tongxingzheng], 15 March 17; “Two Rights Defenders Prohibited From Leaving Country To Go to Hong Kong” [Liang weiquan renshi bei jin chujing dao xianggang], Radio Free Asia, 15 March 17; “Passport Not Processed for Suspected Involvement in 709 Case, Lu Dongli Sues Qianyang County Public Security Bureau” [She 709 an bu yu ban huzhao lu dongli qisu qianyang xian gong’anju], Radio Free Asia, 17 March 17.

<sup>30</sup> “Shihezi, Xinjiang, Tightens Border Controls Again, Public Security Requires Residents To Turn in Passports” [Xinjiang shihezi biankong zai shoujin gong’an yao jumin shangjiao huzhao], Voice of America, 21 October 16; “China Recalls Passports Across Xinjiang Amid Ongoing Security Crackdown,” Radio Free Asia, 20 October 16; Edward Wong, “Police Confiscate Passports in Parts of Xinjiang, in Western China,” *New York Times*, 1 December 16.

<sup>31</sup> Human Rights Watch, “China: Passports Arbitrarily Recalled in Xinjiang,” 21 November 16.

<sup>32</sup> World Uyghur Congress, “The World Uyghur Congress Raises Strong Concerns Over the Confiscation of Passports,” 21 October 16; Human Rights Watch, “China: Passports Arbitrarily Recalled in Xinjiang,” 21 November 16.

<sup>33</sup> Human Rights Watch, “China: Passports Arbitrarily Recalled in Xinjiang,” 21 November 16.

<sup>34</sup> “Protests Continue in Kazakhstan Over China’s Treatment of Kazakhs,” Radio Free Asia, 6 July 17; “Dozens of Ethnic Kazakhs Detained Amid Security Crackdown in China’s Xinjiang,” Radio Free Asia, 1 August 17.

<sup>35</sup> “China Seizes Tibetans’ Passports in a Bid To Block Travel,” Radio Free Asia, 14 November 16; Annie Gowen, “Hundreds of Tibetans Defy China, Gather at Birthplace of Buddhism in India,” *Washington Post*, 13 January 17.

<sup>36</sup> “China Seizes Tibetans’ Passports in a Bid To Block Travel,” Radio Free Asia, 14 November 16.

<sup>37</sup> “Tibetans Ordered Home by China Are Questioned by Police, Lose Their Passports,” Radio Free Asia, 23 January 17; “Tibetan Pilgrims See Passports Destroyed on Their Return,” Radio Free Asia, 31 January 17.

<sup>38</sup> Chris Buckley, “China Bars Professor at Australian University From Leaving, Lawyer Says,” *New York Times*, 26 March 17; Louise Watt, “Scholars Urge China To Let Academic Return to Australia,” Associated Press, 30 March 17.

<sup>39</sup> Chris Buckley, “China Bars Professor at Australian University From Leaving, Lawyer Says,” *New York Times*, 26 March 17; “Australia-Based Scholar Feng Chongyi Still Held in Soft Detention in Guangzhou” [Lu ao xuezhe feng chongyi reng bei ruanjin guangzhou], Radio Free Asia, 27 March 17.

<sup>40</sup> “Australia-Based Scholar Feng Chongyi Still Held in Soft Detention in Guangzhou” [Lu ao xuezhe feng chongyi reng bei ruanjin guangzhou], Radio Free Asia, 27 March 17.

<sup>41</sup> Philip Wen, “Australia-Based Academic Leaves China After Questioning,” *Reuters*, 1 April 17; Nick McKenzie et al., “China’s Operation Australia: The Party Line,” *Sydney Morning Herald*, last visited 16 August 17.

<sup>42</sup> Nick McKenzie et al., “China’s Operation Australia: The Party Line,” *Sydney Morning Herald*, last visited 16 August 17.

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<sup>43</sup>“Dozens of Mainlanders Blocked From Going to Hong Kong To Attend Seminar on Anti-Rightist Movement” [Dalu shu shi ren bei jin lai gang chuxi fanyou yundong yantaohui], Radio Free Asia, 28 March 17.

<sup>44</sup>“HK Holds Seminar on Anti-Rightist Movement, CCP Uses Underhanded Suppression” [Gang ban fanyou yundong yantaohui zhonggong yinzhao daya], Apple Daily, 28 March 17.

<sup>45</sup>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI) of 16 December 66, entry into force 23 March 76, art. 12(1).

<sup>46</sup>See, e.g., “China Ups ‘Stability Maintenance’ Alert as PLA Veterans Head to Beijing,” Radio Free Asia, 25 April 17; “China in Nationwide Security Crackdown During New Silk Road Forum,” Radio Free Asia, 15 May 17; Nathan VanderKlippe, “China Jails Its Citizens as It Touts Global Benefits of ‘New Silk Road,’” Globe and Mail, 17 May 17.

<sup>47</sup>See, e.g., “As Sensitive Dates Approach, Guangzhou Begins To Pressure Rights Defenders” [Min’gan rizi jiang zhi sui kaishi dui weiquan renshi shiya], Radio Free Asia, 18 May 17; “China Puts Activists Under House Arrest, Surveillance Ahead of Massacre Anniversary,” Radio Free Asia, 30 May 17; “Chinese Writer and Lawyer Girlfriend Forced To Leave Guangzhou on Sensitive Dates” [Zhongguo zuojia ji lushi nuyou min’gan ri bei bi li guangzhou], Voice of America, 30 May 17; “Chinese Police Tighten Security in Beijing, Round Up Activists for Tiananmen Massacre Anniversary,” Radio Free Asia, 4 June 17.

<sup>48</sup>See, e.g., “With National Two Sessions About To Convene, Local Governments on Guard Against Petitioners Heading to Beijing” [Quanguo lianghui jijiang zhaokai difang zhengfu yanfang fangmin fu jing], Radio Free Asia, 9 February 17; “As Beijing’s Two Sessions Near, Authorities Hold Large-Scale Clearing Out of Petitioner Villages” [Beijing lianghui jiang zhi dangju daju saodang shangfang cun], Radio Free Asia, 13 February 17; “With ‘Two Sessions’ Drawing Near, Large-Scale Suppression of Dissidents in Many Areas” [“Lianghui” linjin gedi da guimo yazhi yiyi renshi], Radio Free Asia, 28 February 17.

<sup>49</sup>See, e.g., “Hu Jia’s Two Sessions ‘Forced Travel’ Excessively Long, Health Suffers Without Way To Take Scheduled Medicine” [Hu jia lianghui “bei luyou” chaoshi wufa dingshi fuyao jiankang shousun], Radio Free Asia, 21 March 17.

<sup>50</sup>Rights Defense Network, “Former Qianjiang, Hubei, People’s Congress Deputy, Yao Lifa Has Freedom of Person Restricted and Forced To Travel for 18 Days Before and After Two Sessions” [Hubei qianjiang shi qian renda daibiao yao lifa lianghui qianhou bei xianzhi renshen ziyou qiangzhi luyou 18 tian], 18 March 17. For more information on Yao Lifa, see the Commission’s Political Prisoner Database record 2011-00532.

<sup>51</sup>See, e.g., Rights Defense Network, “Statistical Report on Rights Defenders in Shanghai Who Were Put in Black Jails or Detained Before and After the Two Sessions (Supplement)” [Lianghui qianhou shanghai weiquan renshi zao guan hei jianyu he juliu de tongji baogao (buchong)], 16 March 17; Rights Defense Network, “Zhuhai Authorities Build Black Jail on Hilltop, Chen Fengming Held for 18 Days [During] ‘Two Sessions’” [Zhuhai dangju shanding shang jian hei jianyu, chen fengming “lianghui” bei qiujin 18 tian], 19 March 17.

<sup>52</sup>Civil Rights & Livelihood Watch, “Lawyer Liu Zhengqing Prevented From Traveling to Beijing To Work on Case Because of ‘Convening of Two Sessions’” [Liu zhengqing lushi fu jing ban’an bei yi “kai lianghui” wei you lanjie], 27 February 17.

<sup>53</sup>Amnesty International, “China: Human Rights Lawyer Released on Bail Amid Relentless Crackdown,” 10 May 17.

<sup>54</sup>“Xie Yang’s Legal Representative Chen Jian’gang Detained in Yunnan” [Xie yang dali lushi chen jian’gang zai yunnan bei zhua], Radio Free Asia, 3 May 17; Amnesty International, “China: Human Rights Lawyer Released on Bail Amid Relentless Crackdown,” 10 May 17. See also Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, “Press Briefing Notes on China,” 5 May 17.

<sup>55</sup>“During Sensitive Period in March, Multiple Places in Tibetan Areas Under Strict Controls and Surveillance” [San yue min’gan qi zang qu duo di bei yanguan yankong], Radio Free Asia, 14 March 17.

<sup>56</sup>“Police Block Over One Thousand Tibetans From Traveling to Sichuan To Participate in Religious Activity” [Jingfang zu’nao yu qian zangren fu chuan canyu zongjiao huodong], Radio Free Asia, 16 February 17.

<sup>57</sup>Edward Wong, “Western China Region Aims To Track People by Requiring Car Navigation,” New York Times, 24 February 17; “China Orders Satellite Positioning Installed in All Cars in Autonomous Prefecture in Xinjiang” [Zhongguo xialing xinjiang yi zizhizhou quanbu qiche anzhuang weixing dingwei], Radio Free Asia, 21 February 17.

<sup>58</sup>Tom Phillips, “China Orders GPS Tracking of Every Car in Troubled Region,” Guardian, 20 February 17; Philip Wen, “Region in China’s Restive Xinjiang To Track Vehicles as Anti-Terror Measure,” Reuters, 21 February 17.

<sup>59</sup>Ibid.