

Hong Kong, a Truly International City in 2019/2020: Timeline of Incidents – International and Human Rights Perspectives

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Abstract

In 2019 an extradition amendment bill in Hong Kong triggered a public outcry and a persistent social movement. While in authoritarian states no demonstration of considerable size is allowed, in liberal democracies such a large-scale protest would probably compel the government to concede to public opinion. Hong Kong is neither of them, where the main strategy of the Government in handling the crisis is to exercise stronger political and social control over the society. The conflicts are intensified, with the whole society paying a high cost. If the basic strategy does not work, will the authority rethink and change it? The timeline expounded in this article that sets out the significant protests while placing much emphasis on the international and human rights dimensions is an extract of the major events during the anti-extradition amendment law movement and its aftermath.

Keywords: *Hong Kong, anti-extradition amendment law movement, timeline, human rights*

1. Introduction

The extradition amendment Bill sparked off a public outcry and a persistent social movement. The timeline below is an extract of the major events during the anti-extradition amendment law movement and its aftermath. In addition to setting out the significant protests, it puts much emphasis on the international and human rights dimensions. This gives an impression that since June 2019, Hong Kong has particularly strong overseas connections and it is able to attract much international attention. Therefore, Hong Kong is undoubtedly a truly international city. On the other hand, Beijing is worried that Hong Kong has been interfered by foreign elements. Do the following incidents individually or collectively further internationalize or de-internationalize Hong Kong? All of them are shaping the landscape of Hong Kong politics, values and even daily lives in the future.

2. Timeline

Date	Major Events
12 February 2019	– The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government commenced a consultation on extradition law for 20 days, ending on 4 March. ¹
15 March 2019	– HKSAR Government condemned 9 members of Demosistō for intruding into the East Wing of Central Government Offices to protest against the extradition law. ²
23 March 2019	– Anson Chan, former Chief Secretary for Administration and Legislative Council (LegCo) members

Charles Mok and Denis Kwok met Mike Pence, United States (US) Vice-President to talk about the extradition law.³

29 March 2019 – The **Fugitive Offenders (Amendment) Bill** was **gazetted**.

31 March 2019 – Human Rights NGOs’ Joint letter to Chief Executive (CE) Carrie Lam urged the Security Bureau to rescind its proposals to amend the legislation.⁴

The **Civil Human Rights Front (CHRF) organized first procession against the Bill**. CHRF claimed that there were **12,000 participants** whereas the police said that at the time when most people were in the streets, the number was 5,200.⁵

28 April 2019 – CHRF organized the second march with 130,000 protesters while police said 22,800 people at its peak time.⁶

16 May 2019 – Martin Lee, Lee Chuek Yan, Law Kwun Chung and Mak Yin Ting met Mike Pompeo, US Secretary of State, to oppose the extradition law.⁷

18 May 2019 – Anson Chan and LegCo members Charles Mok and Denis Kwok who were invited to visit Germany met Andreas Michaelis of Foreign Office to inform the disputes of the extradition law.⁸

6 June 2019 – About 70 NGOs called on the Government to immediately halt its plan to amend the legislation.⁹

3,000 lawyers joined the demonstration against the Bill while police estimated 880 people.¹⁰

9 June 2019 – CHRF’s third protest attracted more than a million people while the police estimated at 240,000 participants.¹¹

29 cities in different countries protested to support Hong Kong.¹² In Australia, 5,000 people joined.¹³

10 June 2019 – In the Regular Press Conference of Foreign Ministry, Spokesperson Geng Shuang responded that the Central Government supported HKSAR to amend the laws and opposed interference by any foreign forces.¹⁴

11 June 2019 – 19 Taiwan NGOs supported Hong Kong people to demand the withdrawal of the extradition law.¹⁵

12 June 2019 – 40,000 protesters blocked the LegCo Complex and the LegCo meeting on the Bill had to be postponed. **Excessive force by the police was criticized**, including the police’s siege of the CITIC Tower (中信大廈) where a lawful assembly took place.¹⁶

14 June 2019 – International human rights experts observed that “the proposed amendments fail to adequately protect human rights and ‘fundamentally imperil the operation of the rule of law’”.¹⁷

15 June 2019 – CE Carrie Lam announced a pause in the legislative work and had no intention to set a deadline for this work.

She expressed “deep sorrow and regret that the deficiencies in our work”.¹⁸

A man committed suicide in protest of Lam’s decision.¹⁹

16 June 2019 – 2 million people convened by CHRF took to the street even after some compromise by the Government and police estimated at 330,000 protesters.²⁰

40 cities in the world protested to support Hong Kong, in Taiwan, 10,000 people joined.²¹

18 June 2019 – Carrie Lam said that “I offer my most sincere apology to all people of Hong Kong.”²²

25 June 2019 – United Kingdom (UK) stopped selling crowd control equipment to the Hong Kong Police Force.²³

26 June 2019 – Netizens organized petitions to 19 countries’ consulate in Hong Kong for their attention of Hong Kong’s extradition law amendment during G20 Summit.²⁴ Within 9 hours, 6.7 million dollars was raised to post advertisements in in major international newspapers’ frontpage.²⁵

28 June 2019 – Human rights NGOs called for an independent commission of inquiry.²⁶

Due to using tear gas against protesters, Amnesty International is calling on states to assess the human rights risks before granting authorizations of these weapons.²⁷

30 June 2019 – 165,000 people joined the assembly in support of the police and the police estimated at 53,000.²⁸

1 July 2019 – On the 22nd anniversary of the establishment of HKSAR, **CHRF held a procession with 550,000 protesters** while the police estimated at 190,000.²⁹

At night, **some protesters stormed into the LegCo Complex**, occupied with criminal damage for 3 hours.³⁰

6 July 2019 – March in Tuen Mun marked a commencement of a series of protests at district level against the Bill.³¹

8 July 2019 – Denise Ho Wan Sze spoke at a meeting of the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council to urge UN to protect Hong Kong and was interrupted by the Chinese representative.³²

9 July 2019 – Carrie Lam said that the Bill was dead.³³

18 July 2019 – European Parliament urged Hong Kong to ensure that its legislation remains fully in line with its international human rights obligations.³⁴

21 July 2019 – In **Yuen Long, scores of mobsters indiscriminately attacked ordinary people** for two hours with weapons. The police arrived in 39 minutes after the suspects had left.³⁵

24 July 2019 – Ireland was the first country to issue a travel warning for Hong Kong.³⁶

26 July 2019 – 15,000 demonstrators rallied in Hong Kong’s airport to demand for independent investigation of police actions.³⁷

Education International (EI) urged the Hong Kong Government to withdraw the extradition Bill and set up an independent inquiry to investigate police use of force.³⁸

6 August 2019 – Human rights NGOs condemned excess force by the police.³⁹

The International Trade Union Confederation, ITUC, supported general strike in Hong Kong.⁴⁰

The first Citizen Press Conference was held by LIHKG discussion forum to reiterate 5 demands and investigate the police’s actions.⁴¹

7 August 2019 – Zhang Xiaoming, Director of the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China (PRC), referenced the “colour revolution” that caused civil unrest in early 2000s Eastern Europe, and said China has option to deploy military.⁴²

8 August 2019 – 92 South Korean NGOs expressed concerns on indiscriminate and violent crackdown on peaceful protesters in Hong Kong and expressed solidarity with Hong Kong people’s persistent resistance in defending democracy and human rights.⁴³

9 August 2019 – A three-day demonstration in Hong Kong airport to draw international attention to Hong Kong protest.⁴⁴

The Civil Aviation Administration of China told Cathay Pacific that its staff who took part in illegal protests would not be allowed to fly to or from the mainland.⁴⁵

11 August 2019 – A protester was shot in her eye by the police with the bean bag round (布袋彈).⁴⁶

12 August 2019 – Ten thousand people went to the airport to protest and 370 flights were cancelled.⁴⁷

Beijing said violent protests in Hong Kong were “signs of terrorism”.⁴⁸

Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), said: “the ever-escalating police violence shows a government out of control and uninterested in engaging with its people except by force.”⁴⁹

13 August 2019 – Spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights urged HKSAR to investigate the police’s use of force immediately, to ensure the use of weapons to comply with international standard.⁵⁰

Human Rights Monitor condemned the police for infringing the right to legal representation of the arrested persons in the San Uk Ling Holding Centre (新屋嶺拘留中心).⁵¹

Civic Party LegCo members Alvin Yeung and Dennis Kwok visited New York, US, to meet international human rights NGOs to inform them of the police's use of powers.⁵²

14 August 2019 – China's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office condemned the “near-terrorist acts” by protesters at the Hong Kong Airport, urging the city's authorities to hold perpetrators to account.⁵³

15 August 2019 – US President Donald Trump suggested Chinese President Xi Jinping meeting directly with protesters in Hong Kong that would lead to a “happy and enlightened ending” to demonstrations.⁵⁴

16 August 2019 – Several international human rights NGOs called on the Hong Kong Government to take meaningful action to curtail actions by law enforcement that escalate this violence and to proactively address the demands of the protesters.⁵⁵

17 August 2019 – European Union and Canada urged Chinese authorities to engage in a debate with all stakeholders to recover Hong Kong's stability and prosperity.⁵⁶

18 August 2019 – **CHRF organized a march with 1.7 million protesters** while the police estimated at 128,000.⁵⁷

China urged the European Union to stop meddling in Hong Kong affairs.⁵⁸

23 August 2019 – 210,000 people participated in a peaceful action of human chain to fight for the five demands.⁵⁹

24 August 2019 – Pro-Beijing Overseas Chinese in different countries protested against Hong Kong protesters.⁶⁰

26 August 2019 – Many people sang the new song “Glory to Hong Kong”.⁶¹

30 August 2019 – 8 Global Unions Federations representing 250,000,000 workers marched to the Geneva Permanent Mission of the Government of China showing solidarity with the Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions and the protesters in Hong Kong.⁶²

9 pro-democracy activists including Joshua Wong Chi-fung, Agnes Chow Ting,⁶³ lawmakers Au Nok-hin and Jeremy Tam Man-ho were arrested.⁶⁴

Federica Mogherini, European Union foreign policy chief, said the developments in Hong Kong are extremely worrying.⁶⁵

31 August 2019 – The **police** forced the reporters to leave and was **alleged to have attacked the passengers indiscriminately in Prince Edward MTR station.**⁶⁶ Despite repeated denial, many people suspected that death occurred inside the MTR station.⁶⁷ Jackie Chen, a social worker, asking police to calm down, was arrested for riot.⁶⁸

A spokesperson for the Office of the Commissioner of the Chinese Foreign Ministry in HKSAR said the comments made by EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini confused right and wrong, and was an example of interfering in China's internal affairs.⁶⁹

1 September 2019 – Hong Kong Airport remained on partial lockdown due to protest.⁷⁰

2 September 2019 – Widespread class boycott at the beginning of the school new semester.⁷¹

Education International and other trade unions staged a protest outside the Hong Kong Economic and Trade office in Brussels to stand against human rights abuses.⁷²

3 September 2019 – The Hong Kong Bar Association condemned any abuse of power by the police.⁷³

4 September 2019 – **CE announced** that the Government will “**formally withdraw**” the **Fugitive Offenders Bill**.⁷⁴

7 September 2019 – German Prime Minister Angela Merkel urged Beijing to handle Hong Kong conflicts peacefully.⁷⁵

8 September 2019 – Tens of thousands of Hongkongers marched in Central to urge US to pass bill defending human rights.⁷⁶ HKSAR Government expresses regret over the re-introduction of the Act.⁷⁷

Joshua Wong Chi-fung was arrested at Hong Kong Airport for allegedly breaching bail conditions when he was about to travel to Germany on a trip that had been approved by the court.⁷⁸

9 September 2019 – UN urged HKSAR to continue to respond to any acts of violence with restraint and without excessive force.⁷⁹

10 September 2019 – Pansy Ho Chiu-king and Annie Wu Suk-ching, daughter of catering group Maxim’s founder, addressed a meeting of the UN Human Rights Council, saying the protesters did not represent the majority of Hong Kong people.⁸⁰

Beijing was angry as activist Joshua Wong met German foreign minister.⁸¹

12 September 2019 – UN experts “seriously concerned by credible reports of repeated instances where the authorities failed to ensure a safe environment for individuals to engage in public protest free from violence or interference”.⁸²

Hong Kong student leaders lobbied UK MPs on Hong Kong protests.⁸³

13 September 2019 – The Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales (BHRC) issued a statement raising concern about the Hong Kong Government’s failure to order a full and transparent inquiry into police actions.⁸⁴

16 September 2019 – Hong Kong student leaders met with 8 German MPs on Hong Kong protests.⁸⁵

Hong Kong legislator Tanya Chan addressed the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva to investigate the alleged police abuse against demonstrators. China insisted that Hong Kong was an internal issue.⁸⁶

17 September 2019 – CE Carrie Lam explained her plan to set up a dialogue platform to invite people from all walks of life to express their views.⁸⁷

18 September 2019 – Denise Ho Wan Sze, Joshua Wong Chi-fung and Sunny Cheung, spokesperson of the Hong Kong Higher Education International Affairs Delegation (HKIAD), attended a hearing in US Congress in support of the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act.⁸⁸

24 September 2019 – Taiwan Association for Human Rights urged the 5 demands in solidarity with Hong Kong protesters and to improve the refugee protection mechanism.⁸⁹

29 September 2019 – An Indonesian female reporter was mistakenly shot to blind by a policeman.⁹⁰

CE Carrie Lam formally announced withdrawal of the Bill.⁹¹

65 cities in 24 countries protested to support Hong Kong.⁹²

1 October 2019 – On the National Day, a protester, who is a student aged 18, was shot by a policeman and was seriously injured.⁹³

4 October 2019 – **CE in Council announced the Prohibition on Face Covering Regulation** under section 2 of the **Emergency Regulations Ordinance**.⁹⁴

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad suggested CE to step down. CE did not comment.⁹⁵

6 October 2019 – UN human rights chief Michelle Bachelet condemned all acts of violence from all sides. Any restriction regarding the ban on face coverings must have a legitimate and formal basis in law, and has to be proportionate.⁹⁶

Houston Rockets general manager Daryl Morey tried to defuse the rapidly growing international fallout over his deleted tweet that showed support for Hong Kong anti-government protesters.⁹⁷

10 October 2019 – President Tsai Ing-wen said Taiwan did not accept “One Country, Two Systems”, that was a failure in Hong Kong.⁹⁸

14 October 2019 – The German Bar Association urged the authorities to set up an independent inquiry commission.⁹⁹

15 October 2019 – Guri Melby, a Norwegian member of parliament nominated Hong Kong people for Nobel Peace Prize.¹⁰⁰

16 October 2019 – The US House of Representatives unanimously passed the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019 and the Protect Hong Kong Act.¹⁰¹

Seven units of the Chinese authorities strongly opposed the passage of the Acts on Hong Kong matter.¹⁰²

20 October 2019 – A specialized crowd management vehicle sprayed a mosque with blue dye.¹⁰³

21 October 2019 – CE Carrie Lam visited mosque and offered apology at water cannon-hit mosque.¹⁰⁴

23 October 2019 – **Formal withdrawal** of the **extradition Bill** in the LegCo meeting.¹⁰⁵

24 October 2019 – The International Federation for Human Rights passed an urgent resolution in Taiwan to urge the Hong Kong authority to set up an independent inquiry to investigate the police's use of force.¹⁰⁶

25 October 2019 – A human chain in Tseung Kwan O to call for a death inquest for Christy Chan.¹⁰⁷

1 November 2019 – The UK Government called for an end to violence at Hong Kong protests and for the police response to be proportionate.¹⁰⁸ A joint signature campaign was launched to urge the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women to visit Hong Kong and recommended the Hong Kong Government to establish an Independent Commission of Inquiry to conduct impartial investigations.¹⁰⁹

3 November 2019 – Joey Kwok, a freelance photojournalist working for Stand News and a journalism student of Hong Kong Baptist University Students' Union Editorial Board member, were arrested whilst covering the news.¹¹⁰

4 November 2019 – Alex Chow, a protester who was a student of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, fell down from a carpark¹¹¹ and died on 8 November.¹¹²

5 November 2019 – President Xi Jinping of China publicly backed CE Carrie Lam in Shanghai.¹¹³

6 November 2019 – After the **Fourth Plenary Session** of the 19th Central Committee of the **Communist Party of China** (中共四中全會) was held (28 to 31 October) in Beijing, Shen Chunyao (沈春耀), director of the Legislative Affairs Commission of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (SCNPC), said that “at the heart of the problem, lies a **severe distortion and misconception about the relationship between “One Country” and “Two Systems”**, as well as that between the Central Government's overall jurisdiction over Hong Kong and the high degree of autonomy the SAR enjoys.”¹¹⁴

9 November 2019 – News reported that Zhang Xiaoming (張曉明), the director of the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office (港澳辦主任), said that lack of Article 23 is one of the main reasons why “radical, separatist forces” are intensifying in Hong Kong and the SAR should consider passing the law as an urgent task.¹¹⁵

Seven LegCo Members, Eddie Chu, Ray Chan, Lam Cheuk-ting, Kwok Ka-ki, Leung Yiu-chung, Gary Fan and Au Nok-hin were arrested for the alleged offences on 11 May.¹¹⁶

10 November 2019 – An international panel of experts says that the police watchdog, the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC), lacks power to investigate ongoing protests.¹¹⁷

11 November 2019 – The netizens convened the general strikes.¹¹⁸ A policeman shot and seriously injured a protester who had no weapon.¹¹⁹ A man quarreled with protesters and was set on fire, resulting in serious injury.¹²⁰

12 November 2019 – The police denied rape in Tsuen Wan police station on 27 September.¹²¹

There was serious blockage of traffic, including the Cross-Harbor Tunnel in Hung Hom (紅磡海底隧道) by protesters¹²² and many MTR stations closed down.

In the **Chinese University of Hong Kong**, in order to **disperse the protesters, the police fired over 1,000 tear gas** and severe confrontation occurred near several universities too.¹²³

13 November 2019 – The Education Bureau announced the suspension of all schools on the following day.¹²⁴ In mid-November, many schools and universities suspended their classes. An

old man aged 70 was hit by a throwing brick from a protester and died.¹²⁵

Taiwan calls on the international community to stand with Hong Kong.¹²⁶

14 November 2019 – After the death of a university student protester Chow Tsz-lok, Teresa Cheng, Secretary for Justice, was heckled and jostled by protest supporters in London. She fell to the ground and injured her arm.¹²⁷ There was serious blockage of traffic, including the Cross-Harbor Tunnel in Hung Hom and outside Hong Kong Baptist University by protesters.¹²⁸ President Xi gave his tough public comments about the protests that have roiled Hong Kong, saying China supported the police “in sternly enforcing the law.”¹²⁹

15 November 2019 – Education International (EI) and its members are mobilizing to show support for those who defend the values of democracy, justice and liberties.¹³⁰

16 November 2019 – People’s Liberation Army soldiers cleared up debris and bricks without the invitation of the HKSAR as required under the Basic Law.¹³¹

17 November 2019 – **Violent clashes** between protesters and police ensued **outside** the campus of the **Hong Kong Polytechnic University**.¹³²

18 November 2019 – The Court of First Instance ruled that the Emergency Regulations Ordinance is unconstitutional as it

contravenes the constitutional framework under the Basic Law by empowering CE in Council with general legislative power in the name of public danger. Sections 3 and 5 of the Prohibition of Face Covering Regulation fails to satisfy the proportionality test.¹³³

The European Union issued a statement that “[i]n light of the continuing rise in violence in Hong Kong, including the latest developments at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, it is crucial that all sides exercise restraint and engage constructively in de-escalation efforts.”¹³⁴

In the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the police arrested 51 volunteers who provided first aid medical support.¹³⁵ The police fired 3,293 tear gas canisters.¹³⁶

A British human rights observer was detained by Hong Kong police for more than 15 hours, denied access to food and deprived of sleep.¹³⁷

19 November 2019 – Zang Tiewei (臧鐵偉), a spokesman of the Legislative Affairs Commission (LAC) (法制工作委員會) of SCNPC, said, “Whether a law of the HKSAR is in conformity with the Basic Law of the HKSAR can only be judged and decided by SCNPC, and no other organ has the right to judge or decide”.¹³⁸

The Hong Kong Bar Association commented that remarks of the LAC spokesman are legally incorrect and undermined the high degree of autonomy granted to the HKSAR under the Basic Law.¹³⁹

The spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights said that “with regard to the current situation at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, we urge the authorities to do all they can to de-escalate the situation, to address the humanitarian situation of those inside which is clearly deteriorating, and facilitate a peaceful resolution.”¹⁴⁰

The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) strongly condemned the excessive use of force against the demonstrators in Hong Kong.¹⁴¹

20 November 2019 – The Senate of the United States unanimously passed the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019 and the Protect Hong Kong Act, which would prohibit the export of non-lethal crowd control and defence items to Hong Kong. China summoned a senior US diplomat to warn retaliation if US President Donald Trump signed the Act into law.¹⁴²

The Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales (BHRC) called again “on the Hong Kong authorities to initiate an urgent and independent investigation into the allegations of police brutality” to ensure that the rule of law in Hong Kong “is neither eroded nor impeded.”¹⁴³

Seven units of the Chinese authorities strongly opposed US passage of the Acts on Hong Kong matter.¹⁴⁴

23 November 2019 – The US House of Representative passed the Senate’s version of the Acts on Hong Kong.¹⁴⁵

The New York City Bar Association sent an open letter to CE Carrie Lam to call for an inquiry commission on police's use of force.¹⁴⁶

25 November 2019 – In the **District Council election** on 24 November, the **voting rate** is **71.2%**, 24.19% higher than the last voting rate of 47.91% in 2015.¹⁴⁷ In 452 seats, the **democrats secured 388 seats (85%)**.¹⁴⁸

26 November 2019 – The Government will set up an independent review committee to look at the causes of the social unrest.”¹⁴⁹

During the Beijing + 25 CGO forum, 300 representatives from 250 Asia Pacific NGOs expressed stand with Hong Kong for 5 demands.¹⁵⁰

27 November 2019 – US president signed the Acts allowing sanctions against Hong Kong Government¹⁵¹ and restricted US exports of crowd control devices to the Hong Kong Police Force.¹⁵²

29 November 2019 – Michelle Bachelet, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, “appeal to all sides to unequivocally condemn violence that has led to serious injury and death.”¹⁵³ Beijing accused UN of “inappropriate” interference in the country's affairs after UN called for investigations into alleged excessive use of force by police in Hong Kong.¹⁵⁴

2 December 2019 – China announced the suspension of U.S. Navy visits to Hong Kong in retaliation over US President Trump’s decision to sign legislation that supported Hong Kong’s pro-democracy protesters.¹⁵⁵

8 December 2019 – **CHRF organized an anti-government rally and they said an estimated 800,000 took part while police put the number at 183,000.**¹⁵⁶

16 December 2019 – President Xi told CE that the Central Government fully acknowledged her courage and commitment and expressed strong support for the police to firmly enforce the law.¹⁵⁷

19 December 2019 – Dominic Raab, UK Foreign Secretary, urged China to uphold the promises in the Sino-British Joint Declaration.¹⁵⁸

4 people were arrested for money laundering for 70 million dollars relating to Spark Alliance, a crowdsourced fund that was set up to support protesters.¹⁵⁹

22 December 2019 – HKSAR Government opposed the Taiwan authorities’ repeated claims regarding legal assistance between Hong Kong and Taiwan.¹⁶⁰

26 December 2019 – An NGO Stand With Hong Kong invited religious and faith leaders of UK to sign a letter to the British Prime Minister to urge UK government to “urgently ensure the lives and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong are protected”. HKSAR Government stressed that it attached

“the utmost importance to and firmly upheld human rights and various freedoms” in Hong Kong.¹⁶¹

1 January 2020 – CHRF, the march’s organizer, condemned police for ordering a premature end to the rally in support of the protesters’ demands and claimed turnout for the rally was 1,030,000 people. Police said 60,000 people attended the march at its peak.¹⁶²

2 January 2020 – More than 280 people, including 3 Civil Rights Observers were arrested after the assembly on 1 January.¹⁶³

11 January 2020 – The Hong Kong protests were considered a contributing factor in the landslide victory of Tsai Ing-wen in Taiwan’s presidential election.¹⁶⁴

12 January 2020 – Kenneth Roth, the head of Human Rights Watch (HRW), was denied entry to Hong Kong.¹⁶⁵

14 January 2020 – 52 NGOs sent an Urgent Appeal to the UN Special Rapporteur on Toxics on the toxicity of tear gas and other chemical weapons used by the police during the civil rights movement in Hong Kong.¹⁶⁶

15 January 2020 – HKSAR Government responded to a foreign NGO Human Rights Watch’s report and reiterated that foreign organizations should not interfere in the internal affairs of the HKSAR.¹⁶⁷

22 January 2020 – The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Hong Kong.¹⁶⁸

29 January 2020 – UN Special Rapporteur sent a letter to China, stating that “we have reasons to believe that tear gas, pepper spray and other chemical agents have been used indiscriminately, unnecessarily and disproportionately” between June and December 2019.¹⁶⁹

Amnesty International praised Hongkongers for regularly taking to the streets since June last year.¹⁷⁰

4 February 2020 – The first death case of COVID-19 in Hong Kong.¹⁷¹

5 February 2020 – US members of Congress Marco Rubio and James McGovern announced their intention to nominate the Hong Kong protesters for the Nobel Peace Prize.¹⁷²

11 February 2020 – 24 human rights organizations wrote to CE in regard to the arrest of five human rights observers whilst conducting their work at assemblies in Hong Kong in November 2019 and January 2020.¹⁷³

28 February 2020 – Jimmy Lai, founder of Next Digital (formerly Next Media) and Lee Cheuk-yan, vice-chair of Labour Party, and Yeung Sum were arrested for the protest on 31 August 2019.¹⁷⁴

18 March 2020 – China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement indicated that the countermeasures were to reciprocate the US Government’s restrictions on the Chinese media agencies and personnel in the US.¹⁷⁵

26 March 2020 – Cheng Lai-king, chairwoman of Central and Western District Council, was arrested under sedition laws.¹⁷⁶

29 March 2020 – Hong Kong banned public gatherings of more than four people.¹⁷⁷

9 April 2020 – The Court of Appeal partially allowed the Government's appeal. The Court upheld the constitutionality of the Emergency Regulations Ordinance, Cap 241, insofar as it empowered the CE in Council to make emergency regulations on any occasion of public danger but held that sections 3(1)(c) and (d), relating to public meeting and public procession respectively, and section 5 on police powers in relation to facial covering, are all unconstitutional.¹⁷⁸

17 April 2020 – Liaison Office in Hong Kong declared that it and the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office were not subject to Basic Law article 22 restrictions.¹⁷⁹

18 April 2020 – 18 Democrats, including Martin Lee QC, Jimmy Lai, Dr Margaret Ng and Albert Ho were arrested for unauthorized assembly of 18 August 2019. Some international legal organizations urged the Hong Kong authorities to immediately release the arrestees and drop all charges against them.¹⁸⁰

10 May 2020 – Democratic Party legislator Roy Kwong was arrested in Mongkok for disorder in public place.¹⁸¹

11 May 2020 – Hong Kong Committee on Children’s Rights expressed concern on the arrest of underage persons.¹⁸²

13 May 2020 – UN human rights experts urged HKSAR to drop the criminal prosecution of pro-democracy activists who participated in peaceful protests in the city last year.¹⁸³

15 May 2020 – The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) published the “Thematic Study Report on the Public Order Events arising from the Fugitive Offenders Bill since June 2019 and the Police Actions in Response” with 52 recommendations.¹⁸⁴ CE said the report was “comprehensive and objective” and promised to accept all the recommendations.¹⁸⁵

CE shelved plans for an independent review into the underlying causes of the anti-government protests. Several social leaders and scholars were invited to join the panel but all dropped out. Her priority was to deal with the pandemic.¹⁸⁶

22 May 2020 – The European Union considered that democratic debate, consultation of key stakeholders, and respect for protected rights and freedoms in Hong Kong would represent the best way of proceeding with the adoption of national security legislation.¹⁸⁷ Foreign Secretary/Ministers of UK, Australia and Canada were deeply concerned at proposals for introducing legislation related to national security in Hong Kong.¹⁸⁸

26 May 2020 – International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) called upon the NPC to withdraw the Decision and to protect human rights.¹⁸⁹

28 May 2020 – **NPC authorized the SCNPC to formulate national security laws for HKSAR to prevent, stop and punish any secession, subversion, terrorist activities and foreign interference.**¹⁹⁰

The UK, Australia, Canada, and US gave a joint statement to reiterate their deep concern regarding Beijing’s decision to impose a national security law in Hong Kong.¹⁹¹

29 May 2020 – Former Governor of Hong Kong, Lord Patten, led a group of 676 Parliamentarians from 35 countries to decry the introduction of national security legislation in Hong Kong and against the “flagrant breach of the Sino-British Joint Declaration”.¹⁹² **US President ordered removal of Hong Kong’s special status with US over the new security law.**¹⁹³

3 June 2020 – UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that if China were to continue pursuing the national security law, he would open a path to British citizenship for Hong Kong residents who were eligible for a British National (Overseas) passport (BNO).¹⁹⁴

4 June 2020 – LegCo passed the National Anthem Ordinance.¹⁹⁵ Tens of thousands of people gathered for 4 June vigil.¹⁹⁶

6 June 2020 – US Secretary of State made contrast between US and the Chinese Communist Party.¹⁹⁷

9 June 2020 – Human Rights Watch said that the Chinese and HKSAR Governments should respect fundamental rights of people.¹⁹⁸

11 June 2020 – Vigil organizers Lee Cheuk-yan and Albert Ho and media boss Jimmy Lai to be prosecuted on incitement charges over Victoria Park gathering on 4 June.¹⁹⁹

12 June 2020 – Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council of PRC stated that education in Hong Kong must end all speech inciting “Hong Kong independence” and violence in schools.²⁰⁰

17 June 2020 – The Government reported that from June 2019 to May 2020, about 2000 post-secondary institutions students and about 1600 people who were aged under 18 were arrested. There were 10 staff members of post-secondary institutions and about 100 staff or teachers of primary and secondary schools who were arrested.²⁰¹

19 June 2020 – The UN Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet stressed that any legislation for HKSAR and its implementation must fully comply with China’s human rights obligations.²⁰²

20 June 2020 – The European Parliament condemned China’s new national security law for Hong Kong as a “comprehensive assault” on the territory’s freedom and demanded the EU prepare sanctions. Beijing said the National Security Law

was needed to end political unrest and restore stability, after a year of huge and often violent rallies for democracy.²⁰³

25 June 2020 – US Senate passes Hong Kong Autonomy Act and Hong Kong resolution.²⁰⁴

The UN's former human rights chief and eight former U.N. special envoys urged UN Secretary-general to appoint a special envoy on Hong Kong.²⁰⁵

26 June 2020 – UN experts stated that NPC drafted a national security law for HKSAR without any meaningful consultation would violate China's international legal obligations and impose severe restrictions on civil and political rights.²⁰⁶

A former employee of the UK's Hong Kong consulate, Simon Cheng, was granted asylum on 26 June, the first Hong Kong holder of the British National (Overseas) passport, known as a BNO, to receive political asylum. Beijing accused Mr Cheng of inciting political unrest amid anti-government protests in Hong Kong but he denied.²⁰⁷

29 June 2020 – **US ended exports of U.S.-origin defense equipment and will take steps toward imposing the same restrictions on U.S. defense and dual-use technologies to Hong Kong as it does for China.**²⁰⁸

30 June 2020 – **SCNPC passed the Law of People's Republic of China (PRC) on Safeguarding National Security in HKSAR** that became effective that day.²⁰⁹

1 July 2020 – UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson denounced China’s imposition of a security law on Hong Kong as a “clear and serious” violation of Sino-British Joint Declaration.²¹⁰ UK confirmed that these Hong Kong residents could come to UK with a 5-year limited leave to remain.²¹¹ They could apply for indefinite leave to remain in UK and, after a further 12 months with settled status, they were able to apply for British citizenship.²¹²

At the UN Human Rights Council, UK ambassador Julian Braithwaite delivered a joint statement on behalf of 27 countries to call for China to reconsider the imposition of National Security Law in HKSAR.²¹³ Cuba on behalf of 52 countries welcomed the adoption of the law.²¹⁴

2 July 2020 – HKSAR Government stated that the slogan “Liberate Hong Kong, the revolution of our times” (「光復香港 時代革命」) connoted “Hong Kong independence”, or separating HKSAR from PRC, altering the legal status of the HKSAR, or subverting the State power.²¹⁵

The State Council of PRC appointed Chan Kwok-ki (陳國基) as Secretary-General of HKSAR National Security Committee.²¹⁶

3 July 2020 – The State Council of PRC appointed Luo Huining (駱惠寧) as the National Security Affairs Advisor of the National Security Committee of HKSAR.²¹⁷ Zheng Yanxiong (鄭雁雄) was appointed as the director of the National Security Office of PRC in HKSAR and Li

Jiangzhou (李江舟) and Sun Qingye (孫青野) were appointed as the deputy directors.²¹⁸ HKSAR Government opposed the passage of the Hong Kong Autonomy Act by US Congress.²¹⁹

6 July 2020 – HKSAR Government rejected remarks by US Consul General on National Security Law.²²⁰

7 July 2020 – Implementation Rules for Article 43 of the Law of the PRC on Safeguarding National Security in HKSAR came into operation.²²¹

8 July 2020 – The National Security Office of the Central People’s Government (CPG) in HKSAR was inaugurated in Hong Kong.²²²

13 July 2020 – A majority of US companies in Hong Kong surveyed by the American Chamber of Commerce were concerned about the National Security Law and a third considered moving assets or business in the longer term.²²³

15 July 2020 – HKSAR Government expressed its strong opposition to US signing the “Hong Kong Autonomy Act” passed by the US Congress. The HKSAR Government strongly objected to and deplored the series of measures to be adopted by the US under the President’s executive order.²²⁴

21 July 2020 – Democratic Party lawmaker Ted Hui was arrested for allegedly obstructing police, and a District Councilor was taken away for allegedly violating the National Security

Law. More than four people were given penalty tickets for breaching ban on public gatherings law.²²⁵

22 July 2020 – European Union was working on a “comprehensive and coordinated” response to Beijing’s imposition of a national security law on Hong Kong.²²⁶

23 July 2020 – US Secretary of State made a speech “Communist China and the Free World’s Future” which emphasized the China threat in respect of US economy, liberty, and the future of free democracies around the world.²²⁷

HKSAR Government responded to the announcement by UK Government on providing a pathway for the Chinese nationals in Hong Kong who were holders of the British National (Overseas) (BN(O)) passport or eligible for it to reside and obtain citizenship in the UK.²²⁸

28 July 2020 – In accordance with the instruction of CPG, HKSAR Government issued notices to the Consulates of Canada, Australia and UK to suspend the implementation of the Agreement between the HKSAR Government and those governments on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.²²⁹

HKSAR Government opposed EU export restrictions on sensitive equipment and technologies on Hong Kong that were based on groundless allegations.²³⁰

30 July 2020 – 12 candidates were disqualified from standing for LegCo election.²³¹

31 July 2020 – HKSAR Government announced the postponement of LegCo election for a year.²³²

3 August 2020 – In accordance with the instruction of CPG, HKSAR Government issued a notice to the New Zealand Consulate-General to suspend the implementation of the Agreement Concerning Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matter.²³³

4 August 2020 – UK All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Hong Kong released their inquiry into the police actions against humanitarian and medical workers.²³⁴

5 August 2020 – HKSAR Government strongly deplored and opposed the report published by UK APPG on Hong Kong and reiterated that matters relating to the HKSAR remained China's internal affair.²³⁵

7 August 2020 – HKSAR Government strongly deplored and opposed the statement by the US Consulate General Hong Kong and Macau, which commented that the National Security Law would affect the freedom of speech of Hong Kong residents.²³⁶

U.S. sanctioned 11 senior government officials of the Mainland and HKSAR.²³⁷

8 August 2020 – HKSAR Government criticized the sanctions as shameless and despicable.²³⁸

10 August 2020 – 200 policemen of the Department for safeguarding national security of the Hong Kong Police Force raided Next Digital Building. The police arrested 10 people²³⁹, including Lai Chi Ying and Agnes Chow.

In response to the sanctions by the US Government against 11 officials of CPG and HKSAR Government, the **PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced sanctions against 11 persons from the US.**²⁴⁰

HKSAR Government opposed the joint statement by the foreign ministers of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK and US regarding the postponement of the Legislation Council General Election due to the severe epidemic, the Returning Officers' decisions to disqualify some candidates for LegCo election, and the enactment of the National Security Law.²⁴¹

11 August 2020 – SCNPC extended the session of the 6th LegCo for not less than a year.²⁴²

12 August 2020 – In accordance with the instruction of CPG, HKSAR Government issued notices to Germany and France to suspend the implementation of the Agreement Concerning Surrender of Accused or Convicted Persons.²⁴³

Japan Parliamentary Alliance on China commented on National Security Law and LegCo electoral arrangements. HKSAR Government expressed deep regret.²⁴⁴

20 August 2020 – HKSAR Government issued a severe reprimand against US’s unilateral decision to suspend or terminate three bilateral agreements with the HKSAR.²⁴⁵ In accordance with the instruction of CPG, HKSAR Government issued a notice to US to suspend the implementation of the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matter.²⁴⁶

23 August 2020 – **Twelve Hong Kong residents were arrested while trying to flee to Taiwan.**²⁴⁷

26 August 2020 – Lawmakers Democrats Hui Chi Fung and Lam Cheuk Ting were arrested “for participating in riot” on 21 July 2019.²⁴⁸

31 August 2020 – Police reported that 20 people were arrested for offence under the National Security Law since 1 July.²⁴⁹

1 September 2020 – UN Special Rapporteurs expressed concern that the National Security Law lacked precision, infringed on certain fundamental rights and might not meet the required thresholds of necessity, proportionality and non-discrimination under international law.²⁵⁰

2 September 2020 – Hong Kong Bar Association commented that CE’s remarks that HK has no “separation of powers”²⁵¹ departed from the authoritative judicial decisions on the structure of the HKSAR Government which form part of the law of Hong Kong, and were contradictory to the public statements of two Chief Justices.²⁵²

A non-permanent judge of the Court of Final Appeal resigned and was reported relating to the National Security Law.²⁵³ CE Office said that Mr Justice Spigelman did not give any reason for his resignation²⁵⁴ and did not affect judicial independence.²⁵⁵

3 September 2020 – US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that Chinese diplomats in the US needed to seek permission before they could meet with local government officials or visit university campuses.²⁵⁶

6 September 2020 – Tam Tak-chi, leading figure of People Power was arrested under the sedition law.²⁵⁷

7 September 2020 – Hong Kong Committee on Children’s Rights was concerned about the treatment of a 12-year-old girl tackled by police.²⁵⁸

Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council of PRC stated that the “separation of powers” in the political system of HKSAR is wrong and must be corrected.²⁵⁹

8 September 2020 – From 9 June 2019 to 6 September 2020: 10,016 people were arrested of which 22% (2,210 people) have been prosecuted.²⁶⁰

11 September 2020 – US was deeply concerned that twelve Hong Kong democracy activists, arrested two weeks ago off the coast of Hong Kong by Guangdong Maritime Police, have been denied access to lawyers of their choice.²⁶¹

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said that Beijing would impose “reciprocal restrictions” on all US embassies and consulates on Chinese soil, including the consulate in Hong Kong, without giving details.²⁶²

A jury returned an open verdict in the death of Hong Kong Design Institute student Chan Yin-lam, at the Coroner’s Court.²⁶³ Coroner pointed to a lack of evidence of assault or threats to Chan and suicide cannot be established ‘beyond a reasonable doubt’.²⁶⁴

16 September 2020 – A German think tank said it would close its Hong Kong office following the imposition of National Security Law.²⁶⁵

18 September 2020 – UN High Commissioner for Human Rights urged Chinese authorities to ensure due process rights to group of 12 Hong Kongers arrested at sea, including swift access to legal representation of their choosing.²⁶⁶

22 September 2020 – HKSAR police outlined new accreditation procedures under the Police General Orders to amend the definition of “media representatives”.²⁶⁷

23 September 2020 – The Foreign Correspondents’ Club (FCC), Hong Kong, opposed the new accreditation policy for journalists as it undermines press freedom.²⁶⁸ Hong Kong opposition activist Joshua Wong Chi-fung was arrested for allegedly taking part in an illegal assembly during the city’s social unrest on 5 October 2019.²⁶⁹

24 September 2020 – The spokesperson of the Office of the Chinese Foreign Ministry Commissioner expressed strong disapproval of and firm opposition against the unwarranted remarks FCC made about the police’s amendment of the definition of “media representatives”. FCC was blamed for attempting to endorse the rioters and condone their “burn with us” violence.²⁷⁰

The European Union said that the arrest of Joshua Wong Chi-fung was the latest in a troubling series of arrests of pro-democracy activists since the summer.²⁷¹

27 September 2020 – American diplomats must obtain approval from Beijing’s foreign ministry before they can meet with HKSAR government officials or personnel from the city’s educational institutions and societies.²⁷²

29 September 2020 – A majority of the pan-democratic lawmakers decided to stay in LegCo for the coming year.²⁷³

2 October 2020 – European Council underlined its serious concerns about the human rights situation in China, including developments in Hong Kong.²⁷⁴

US State Department said that Hong Kong was included for the first time for the proposed quota for refugees in response to the Beijing-imposed National Security Law.²⁷⁵

4 October 2020 – US State Department condemned Hong Kong’s government and police for the arrest of more than 80 people to stop unauthorized protests.²⁷⁶

6 October 2020 – A teacher was disqualified by the Government for “purportedly spreading the idea of Hong Kong independence”. This is the first deregister case relating to teaching.²⁷⁷ Between June 2019 and August 2020, there were 247 complaints against alleged unprofessional teachers relating to the social incidents.²⁷⁸

A Joint statement by Germany on behalf of 39 countries at the UN General Assembly Third Committee expressed concern on Hong Kong National Security Law and Xinjiang human rights situation.²⁷⁹ Pakistan made a joint statement on behalf of 55 countries, opposing interference in China’s internal affairs under the pretext of Hong Kong.²⁸⁰

7 October 2020 – Canada began granting asylum to Hong Kong pro-democracy activists.²⁸¹

3. Final Remarks

In 1997, China resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong.²⁸² Hong Kong has maintained its international characters since the handover. For instance, the judiciary, in particular the Court of Final Appeal, has endeavored to keep in pace with the international standard. The Court has invited overseas distinguished judges to sit in the highest Court. The judgments referred to the latest authorities of other common law jurisdictions extensively and were often cited by overseas courts. However, if more overseas judges are reluctant to come to Hong Kong, the city may lose its distinctive feature in the “Two Systems”.

In authoritarian states, no demonstration of considerable size would be allowed. Yet, in liberal democracies, such a large-scale protest would probably compel the government to concede to public opinion.²⁸³ Hong Kong is neither of them. The main strategy of the Government in handling the crisis is to exercise stronger political and social control over the society. The conflicts are intensified. The whole society has to pay a high cost. If the basic strategy does not work, will the authority rethink and change it?

Hong Kong has gradually developed into an international city after the Sino-British Opium War that ended in 1842 which UK regarded as a trade war. Since 2019, Hong Kong has become the center of storm in the Sino-US trade war. With this background, will Hong Kong be unstable for a further foreseeable future?

Part of the above timeline was based on my paper presented at a conference held on 5 December 2019: Chong Yiu Kwong, “Hong Kong’s watershed 2019: A point of No Return—human rights and historical perspectives”.

Notes

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1. 「台灣殺人案 家屬西環求助 港府推修例 商界北京述憂」《明報》2019年7月17日，A04版。
2. “HKSAR Government strongly condemns Demosistō for intrusion into CGO lobby causing blockage”, HKSAR Government press release, 15 March 2019.
3. 許懿安「陳方安生訪美 與副總統彭斯短暫交談」《香港01》2019年3月22日。湯惠芸「香港前高官及民主派議員總結訪美行 籲港府撤回逃犯修例」《美國之音》2019年4月2日。瀏覽日期：2019年11月24日：<https://www.hk01.com/%E5%8D%B3%E6%99%82%E5%9C%8B%E9%9A%9B/309486/%E9%99%B3%E6%96%B9%E5%AE%89%E7%94%9F%E8%A8%AA%E7%BE%8E-%E8%88%87%E5%89%AF%E7%B8%BD%E7%B5%B1%E5%BD%AD%E6%96%AF%E7%9F%AD%E6%9A%AB%E4%BA%A4%E8%AB%87>；<https://www.voacantonese.com/a/hk-pan-democratic-lawmakers-and-chan-conclude-the-us-trip/4858270.html>
4. Amnesty International Hong Kong, Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor and Human Rights Watch “Joint letter to Chief Executive Carrie Lam on Proposed Changes to Hong Kong’s Extradition Laws”, 31 March 2019. Accessed on 21 November 2019: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/03/30/joint-letter-chief-executive-carrie-lam> 「香港人權監察等就《逃犯條例》致特首之公開信」《獨立媒體》2019年3月31日。瀏覽日期：2019年11月21日：<https://www.inmediahk.net/node/1063225a>
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6. 「反逃犯修例遊行人數 林鄭上任新高」《香港經濟日報》《經濟日報》2019年4月1日。
7. 「李柱銘：擋「送中惡法」美國有責 香港法治如「綠洲」中國乃「沙漠」」《自由亞洲電台》2019年5月15日。瀏覽日期：2019年11月24日：<https://www.rfa.org/cantonese/news/htm/us-martin-05152019095104.html>
8. 吳偉安「陳方安生批林鄭不屑一顧態度 難釋社會及國際憂慮」《香港01》2019年11月24日。彭毅詩「與陳方安生明起訪問德國晤官員 郭榮鏗擬提修例爭議」《香港01》2019年5月11日。瀏覽日期：2019年11月24日：<https://www.hk01.com/%E6%94%BF%E6%83%85/328227/%E9%80%83%E7%8A%AF%E6%A2%9D%E4%BE%8B-%E9%99%B3%E6%96%B9%E5%AE%89%E7%94%9F%E6%89%B9%E6%9E%97%E9%84%AD%E4%B8%8D%E5%B1%91%E4%B8%80%E9%A1%A7%E6%85%8B%E5%BA%A6-%E9%9B%A3%E9%87%8B%E7%A4%BE%E6%9C%83%E5%8F%8A%E5%9C%8B%E9%9A%9B%E6%86%82%E6%85%AE>；<https://www.hk01.com/%E6%94%BF%E6%83%85/327950/%E9%80%83%E7%8A%AF%E6%A2%9D%E4%BE%8B-%E8%88%87%E9%99%B3%E6%96%B9%E5%AE%89%E7%94%9F%E6%98%8E%E8%B5%B7%E8%A8%AA%E5%95%8F%E5%BE%B7%E5%9C%8B%E6%99%A4%E5%AE%98%E5%93%A1-%E9%83%AD%E6%A6%AE%E9%8F%97%E6%93%AC%E6%8F%90%E4%BF%AE%E4%BE%8B%E7%88%AD%E8%AD%B0>
9. “Open Letter regarding proposed changes to Hong Kong’s extradition law” to CE, 6 June 2019. Accessed on 21 November 2019: https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/supporting_resources/openletterhk201906_1.pdf 香港人權監察等「公民組織聯署致函特首 促港府立即停止修訂逃犯條例」《獨立媒體》2019年6月7日。瀏覽日期：2019年11月21日：<https://www.inmediahk.net/node/1064556>
10. 「法律界黑衣遊行 政總昂首反修例 「不向政府低頭」 稱3000人參與回歸後最多」《明報》2019年6月7日。
11. 「白衣人海反修例 民陣稱103萬 警稱高峰24萬」《明報》2019年6月10日。
12. 「全球29城市港人 自發集會聲援」《香港經濟日報》2019年6月10日，政治版。

13. 「全球 29 城聲援 澳洲 5000 人響應 多居外港人 「向國際展示曾發聲」《明報》2019 年 6 月 10 日，要聞版。
14. “Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Geng Shuang’s Regular Press Conference on 22 November 10, 2019” (外交部發言人耿爽主持例行記者會). Accessed on 22 November 2019: https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/t1670850.shtml
15. 「台灣民間團體針對「務實因應『送中條例』」的四點呼籲」(台灣人權促進會新聞稿) 2019 年 6 月 11 日。瀏覽日期：2019 年 11 月 25 日：<https://www.tahr.org.tw/news/2443> On 12 June, 24 NGOs protest against the extradition law. 「台灣 NGO 抗議香港立法會「送中條例」二讀 要求台灣政府及所有候選人表態並提出因應之道」(台灣人權促進會新聞稿) 2019 年 6 月 12 日。瀏覽日期：2019 年 11 月 25 日：<https://www.tahr.org.tw/news/2445>
16. 「高峰 4 萬人 入夜數百人退守中環 警目標保立會 暫不清場」《明報》2019 年 6 月 13 日。The Hong Kong Bar Association “notes with grave concern video footages showing that the police appeared to have acted in disregard of the safety and well-being of protesters and frontline journalists covering the protest” in its statement “Statement of the Hong Kong Bar Association (HKBA) on the Use of Force by the Hong Kong Police on 12 June 2019”, 13 June 2019. Accessed on 22 Nov 2019: <https://www.hkba.org/events-publication/press-releases-coverage>
17. The joint statement is by The Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales, the Law Society of England & Wales, the Human Rights Committee of the Law Society of England and Wales, the International Bar Association’s Human Rights Institute, the Defence Extradition Lawyer’s Forum, the International Forum of Extradition Specialists, and Fair Trials. “Hong Kong’s “ill conceived” extradition proposals “fundamentally imperil the operation of the rule of law” say leading international law organizations.” 14 June 2019. Accessed on 22 November 2019: <http://www.barhumanrights.org.uk/hong-kongs-ill-conceived-extradition-proposals-fundamentally-imperil-the-operation-of-the-rule-of-law-say-leading-international-law-organisations/> The International Trade Union Confederation, ITUC, expressed outrage at the brutal suppression of protests on 12 June. “ITUC condemns brutal suppression of protests in Hong Kong”, ITUC, 14 June 2019. Accessed on 26 November 2019: <https://www.ituc-csi.org/ituc-condemns-brutal-suppression>
18. “Opening remarks by CE at media session”, HKSAR Government press release, 15 June 2019, paragraphs 5-7.
19. Grundy, Tom, “Man protesting Hong Kong’s extradition law dies after falling from mall in Admiralty”, *Hong Kong Free Press*, 15 June 2019 at: <https://hongkongfp.com/2019/06/15/man-protesting-hong-kongs-extradition-law-unconscious-jumping-mall-admiralty/>
20. 「示威者叫下台 林鄭發稿道歉 黑衣白花 百萬人喊撤回 民陣稱近 200 萬人 警稱約 33.8 萬」《明報》2019 年 6 月 17 日。On 16 June in the march, there were many people paying tribute to Macro Leung Lit Kit (梁凌杰), a protester, who committed suicide for the movement. Jeff Pao, “People pay tribute to Hong Kong protester who died”, *Asia Times*, 16 June 2019. Accessed on 22 November 2019: <https://www.asiatimes.com/2019/06/article/people-pay-tribute-to-hong-kong-protester-who-died/>
21. 「譴責港警 為港墮斃示威者默哀 海外 40 市聲援 台北萬人集會」《明報》2019 年 6 月 17 日，要聞版。

22. “Opening remarks by CE at media session”, HKSAR Government press release, 15 June 2019, paragraphs 1-2:
 “During large-scale public processions over the past two Sundays, people have expressed in a peaceful and rational manner their concerns about the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and their dissatisfaction and disappointment with the Government – especially me. I have heard you loud and clear, and have reflected deeply on all that has transpired.
 The concerns over the past few months have been caused by deficiencies in the work of the SAR Government over the amendment exercise. I personally have to shoulder much of the responsibility. This has led to controversies, disputes and anxieties in society. For this I offer my most sincere apology to all people of Hong Kong.”
23. “UK halts sale of teargas to Hong Kong amid police brutality claims”, *The Guardian*, 25 June 2019 at: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jun/25/uk-halts-sales-of-tear-gas-to-hong-kong-amid-police-brutality-claims>
24. 「朝遊行晚集會 盼外國關注反修例」《經濟日報》2019年6月27日，A25版。Taiwan NGOs urged G20 leaders opposed the Hong Kong extradition law. 「G20即將開始，呼籲各國領袖「反送中」」（台灣人權促進會新聞稿）2019年6月27日。瀏覽日期：2019年11月24日：<https://www.tahr.org.tw/news/2455>
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27. Amnesty International “UN must seize historic opportunity to stop equipping torturers”, 28 June 2019. Accessed on 24 November 2019: <https://www.amnesty.org.hk/en/un-must-seize-historic-opportunity-to-stop-equipping-torturers/>
28. 「撐警集會稱16.5萬人出席 警：5.3萬 前副處長任達榮：撤暴動說法「繙線」」《明報》2019年7月1日。In the march, protesters paid tribute to two ladies (盧曉欣, 鄔幸恩) who committed suicide due to the movement. 「反對逃犯條例修訂草案運動相關嚴重傷亡事件」《維基百科》。瀏覽日期：2019年11月22日：<https://zh.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E5%8F%8D%E5%B0%8D%E9%80%83%E7%8A%AF%E6%A2%9D%E4%BE%8B%E4%BF%AE%E8%A8%82%E8%8D%89%E6%A1%88%E9%81%8B%E5%8B%95%E7%9B%B8%E9%67%9C%E5%9A%B4%E9%87%8D%E5%82%B7%E4%BA%A1%E4%BA%8B%E4%BB%B6%E7%9B%A7%E6%9B%89%E6%AC%A3>
29. 「民陣稱55萬人遊行 七一新高 未回應有否後續行動 警：高峰19萬」《明報》2019年7月2日。It broke the record of 1 July procession.
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