

Dear Members of the Joint standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade,

Thank you for providing me an opportunity to make a submission on the question of whether Australia should adopt legal measures to impose a sanction upon individuals who commit gross human rights abuse.

I am one of the founders of Perth-HK Students' Anti-ELAB Concern Group, which is a group of Hong Kong students in Australia. We aim to garner international support through raising concerns and awareness with the international community.

As a victim from a place, where human rights are abusing by their authority, I respectfully encourage the committee to support enacting legislation that is comparable to the US Magnitsky in Australia.

- **Targeting Individual offenders**

Enacting the law, authority can ban the human rights offenders from entering the country, freeze their foreign assets. They could never enjoy the freedom in western countries while they are destroying it in another place. Hopefully, less anti-human rights actions will be taken by those offenders.

Officers in Hong Kong government, who has taken countless cruel, anti-human-right actions, usually have a foreign nationality, included but not limited to Australia. They could suppress people's freedom of speech, freedom of protest and so on, and place no respect for human rights. They will leave Hong Kong when they retire and live in a country, where values human rights and democracy, enjoying those western values they have been never respected on. This is strange that a country does value human rights accepting those human rights offenders in their country. Magnitsky-like Act would be an effective tool to sanction and stop human rights violation actions, as offenders' assets, retired life will be disturbed.

Australia's existing autonomous sanctions regime is inadequate, individuals' sanction is not included. Having a new, specific law would create a clear, transparent process for members of parliament and civil society to present information to the Australian government.

- **The law needs to enforce without concern the China factor**

The Magnitsky Act will not be an effective tool if it does not apply to every individual and regime. Economic relations, especially to China, should not be a concern whether the law should be enforced to a particular regime or government.

- **Police Brutality in Hong Kong**

Hong Kong government are trying to kill their people. On 14 October 2019, Hong Kong police shot a 14-year-old child in the leg with a live round. On 17 November 2019, during a clash between the police and protestors in the area around Hong Kong Polytechnic University, a long-range sound device was used and police warned that live rounds would be used if they met with "deadly weapons". The press found that Raptors equipped with AR-15 were patrolling around the clash zones. These are just some examples of police brutality in Hong Kong.

Amnesty news: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/09/hong-kong-arbitrary-arrests-brutal-beatings-and-torture-in-police-detention-revealed/>

- **Students take to the streets leaving behind a note of last wishes**

Many students, take to the streets leaving behind a note of last wishes as they prepare to die for Hong Kong in each protest. This is the fight for freedom and democracy. We do it because we love our city.

The young generation in Hong Kong is fighting for freedom. We do need help. We do need help from Australia, a global leader in human rights and the most robust democracy in the region.

I am also more than ready to testify in any of Parliamentary inquiry hearing on the relevance of a Global Magnitsky Act and our struggle for democracy.

I hope that the Australian Magnitsky Act can be enacted as law and implemented as early as possible this year.

Yours Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.