









# To the governments and athletes of the world, and to our member organizations,

Next month, the 2022 Winter Olympics will commence in Beijing after an opening ceremony presided by Xi Jinping. The Olympic Charter declares that games exist to promote "a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity", but the choice to allow the People's Republic of China to host the games in 2022 makes a travesty of those values.

The very same Xi Jinping who will preside over the 2022 Winter Olympic Games is the leader of one of the world's most repressive authoritarian regimes and one of the world's worst violators of human rights, human dignity, and peace.

Xi Jinping's China occupies Tibet and East Turkestan by force of arms, repressing the native populations in order to sinicize these territories and exploit their natural resources.

It has unilaterally and undemocratically degraded the political status of Hong Kong with brutal crackdowns on political and civil rights, including the 2020 Hong Kong National Security Law, all in direct violation of the 50-year assurance China made upon the handover of Hong Kong in 1997.

It publicly and continuously menaces the free island of Taiwan with the threat of invasion, for the purpose of ending democracy there and incorporating the island into the dictatorship of the People's Republic of China.

It maintains a domestic regime of censorship and repression, banning opposition political parties, preventing free elections, and even banning public criticism of the government. To wit, when the Chinese tennis player Peng Shui accused a Communist Party Politburo member of pressuring her into intercourse, she was cut off from speaking to the outside world and has subsequently not made public appearances, generating international concern for her safety.











Olympic athletes have been warned that any public discussion of human rights in China would come at their own peril.

Most seriously of all, Xi's PRC government is currently in the process of genocide of the Uighur people, recognized as such by foreign governments around the world, which has included the mass detention of millions of Uighurs in concentration camps without criminal charge or due process, torture, and mass forced sterilization that has significantly lowered the birth rates in East Turkestan.

Nations of the world that genuinely value the Olympic values of peace and preservation of human dignity must not dignify Xi Jinping and the People's Republic of China by sending their officials to Beijing to participate in an Olympic ceremony over which he will preside. Accordingly, we join the call of multiple Tibetan, Uighur, Hongkonger, Chinese, Taiwanese, and Mongolian organizations: we call for a global diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympic Games, and we applaud the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, Lithuania, Estonia, and Kosovo for already announcing a boycott. We call on athletes around the world to condemn the 2022 Winter Olympic Games and to raise global awareness of these issues, and we call on our member organizations to promote a diplomatic boycott of the games by their governments.

In 1936, the world made a grave mistake by participating in the Berlin Olympics and thereby legitimizing Adolf Hitler and his Nazi regime at a time when he had already begun to operate the concentration camps which would go on to be used in the Holocaust, one of the most gruesome periods of human history. In 2022 when China currently detains the largest number of ethnic minorities in concentration camps since World War Two and leaves them to an uncertain fate, it is again a grave mistake to legitimize Xi Jinping and his regime.













#### **About us**

<u>The International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY)</u> is a federation of liberal youth organizations from all around the world. With more than 70 member organizations, our aim is to promote liberalism and globalise freedom!

The <u>Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG)</u> is the European umbrella organisation for 36 Young Green organisations from all over the continent, comprising local ecological groups, student unions, youth wings of Green parties, and Green Youth NGOs. In addition, we are also the independent, official youth wing of the European Green Party (EGP).

<u>The European Free Alliance youth (EFAy)</u> is the organisation that represents the youth of Europe's stateless nations, regions, and minorities. EFAy is the youth organisation of the EFA political party. Created in the year 2000, EFAy brings together 29 youth organisations from all across Europe. EFAy clearly stands for self-determination, progressive values, and for further democratisation of the European Union.

<u>The Africa Liberal Youth (ALY)</u> is the Youth Organization of the Africa Liberal Network (ALN). Their aim is to provide a Voice for the African Liberal Youth.

<u>Liberal Youth</u> of the Phillippines is a youth wing of the Liberal Party of the Philippines that is a founding member of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats. Since its founding in 1946, the LP has championed freedom, justice, and the dignity and rights of the individual.













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