

THE FIFTEENTH
INTERETHNIC INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
第十五屆族群青年領袖研習營
18/11/2020

Countering the CCP in a New Era: Our Joint Strategy in Light of Election 2020 and COVID-19
疫情、美国大选形势下我们共同对抗中共的战略

Organized by Citizen Power Initiatives for China, Sponsored by Taiwan Foundation for Democracy

AGENDA

8:00-8:10 EST

Opening Remarks

Dr. Jianli Yang

President, Citizen Power Initiatives for China

8:10-8:40 EST

Greetings Remarks

Hon. Ngodup Tsering

Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama for North America

Senator Marsha Blackburn

U.S. Senator

Congressman Chris Smith

U.S. Representative

Congressman Ted Yoho

U.S. Representative

Mr. Caleb Max

Co-Founder, Athenai Institute

Moderator: *Dr. Lianchao Han, Vice President, Citizen Power Initiatives for China*

8:40-9:00 EST

Lecture I: An Observation on Japanese Diplomacy Towards China

Prof. Tomoko Ako

Professor of Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Tokyo

9:00-9:20 EST

Lecture II: Human Rights in Canada-China Relations

Prof. Irwin Cotler

Founder and Chair of the Raul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, Emeritus Professor of Law, Former Minister of Justice of Canada, Former Member of Parliament of Canada

9:20-9:40 EST

Lecture III: Changing contours of India-China relations and its regional fallout in the Indo-Pacific

Mr. Atul Aneja

Associate Editor of "The Hindu" newspaper

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9:40-10:00 EST **Lecture IV: Examining the Britain – Hong Kong – China relationship**

Mr. Benedict Rogers
Founder of Hong Kong Watch

Moderator: Dr. Jianli Yang, *President, Citizen Power Initiatives for China*

10:00-10:10 EST **Message from Hong Kong by Mr. Patrick Poon**

10:10-10:30 EST **Lecture V: Skeptical Materialism vs. Dialectical Materialism: The Future of US-PRC Relations**

Mr. Eric Brown
Fellow of Hudson Institute

10:30-11:10 EST **Panel: American Young Bi-Partisan Leaders**
Moderator: Mr. Rory O'Connor, *President of Athenai Institute*

Ms. Keely Sage
President of Tennessee College Democrat

Ms. Courtney Hope Britt
Vice Chair, College Republican National Committee Southern Region

11:10-11:30 EST **Lecture VI: Lend your voice to the Uyghurs - Why China's religious persecution demands a collective response?**

Mr. Nury Turkel
Commissioner, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom
President, Uyghur Human Rights Project

11:30-11:50 EST **Lecture VII: Democracy and Freedom Should Be Central Features of the US and Its Democratic Allies in Responding to the CCP's Challenge**

Mr. Christopher Walker
Vice President of National Endowment for Democracy

12:00-12:20 EST **Panel: Defending America's Academic Freedom-Athenai Institute**

Mr. Rory O'Connor
President & Founder of Athenai Institute

Mr. Caleb Max
Co-Founder of Athenai Institute

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- 12:20-13:00 EST **Message from Tibetan, Uyghur, Southern Mongolian, Taiwan, and China's Christian Churches**
Mr. Tsultrim Gyatso (Office of Tibet), Ms. Zubayra Shamseden (Uyghur Human Rights Project), Mr. Enghebatu Togochoq (Souther Mongolian Human Rights Information Center), Ms. Jenny Wang (Keep Taiwan Free), Rev. Qianjin Zhang (House Christian Churches in China)
- 13:00-13:20 EST **Lecture VIII: Intelligence Collection 101 for Citizen Detectives**

Mr. Brian O'Shea
CEO, Striker Pierce Investigations. EVP & COO, Centurion Intelligence Partners
- 13:20-13:40 EST **Lecture IX: Europe and China, from strategic partners to systemic rivals. What next?**

Dr. Zsuzsa Anna Ferenczy
Affiliated Scholar at the Department of Political Science of the Free University of Brussels. Expert Consultant on China, Taiwan and the Korean Peninsula of Human Rights Without Frontiers.
- 13:40-14:00 EST **Lecture X: Australia's Moral and Strategic Choice**

Hon. Michael Danby
Former Parliament Member of Australia, writer of Australia's Magnitsky Act.
- 14:00-15:00 EST **General Discussion**

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Conference Background

The InterEthnic/Interfaith Leadership Conferences, founded by Dr. YANG Jianli, president of Citizen Power Initiatives, with guidance of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, began in 2000. The 2020 assembly will be the 15th in the series. Past Conferences have been held in locations throughout the world, including Boston, Washington, D.C., California, Taipei, Dharamsala, India and Tokyo, Japan.

The Conference Series seeks to advance mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation among the diverse ethnic, religious, cultural, and regional groups directly involved with the People's Republic of China. It also aims to explore universal values and the common ground supporting a united front to advance democracy and human rights for all. The broadly defined ethnic, faith and regional groups represented in the Conference include Han Chinese, Tibetans, Uyghurs, Mongolians, Christians, Falun Gong practitioners, Muslims, Buddhists, People from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. As Dr. YANG Jianli said in his opening speech of the initial Conference on Oct. 2, 2000, "It is the first time in history that leaders from these ethnic, religious, and regional groups have come together without coercion, to stand up together for justice, liberty and love without fear and hesitation."

In the past 19 years, the Conference Series has involved more than 1,300 young leaders from these groups, world leaders, scholars, human rights activists and NGO heads. Participants have been committed to embracing human rights as a universal value. They have united as one in the vision for a democratic future and have shown commitment to nonviolence. They have been committed to maintaining close communication, exercising tolerance and forgiveness toward each other, eliminating hatred, resentment and misunderstanding, pursuing truth, accomplishing reconciliation and loving one another. The Conference has provided a critical counterweight to the "divide and conquer" strategy of the CCP and seeks to empower young leaders to use the tools and strategies of nonviolent resistance, social media techniques, and unified citizen power in international advocacy. These Conferences are based on the belief that only the diverse peoples themselves, through "citizen power," can bring about a democratic change needed in China, but that the international community also has an important supportive role to play. To this end, we promote and implement programs that educate, empower and unify the peoples directly involved with China and connect them with freedom advocates around the world. Through the cooperative spirit of these assemblies and the work on joint projects and campaigns in between the conferences, a strong coalition has been forged among these ethnic, religious and regional groups. The Conference has become the single most important united forum for planning and pursuing a peaceful transition to democracy in China.



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About Initiatives for China 关于公民力量

Advancing a Peaceful Transition to Democracy in China through Truth, Understanding, Citizen Power, and Cooperative Action

Citizen Power Initiatives for China is a grassroots movement dedicated to advancing a peaceful transition to democracy in China. Our movements are embedded with the belief that such a transition can be achieved through structural reform of the current system of government that by its very nature denies universally recognized political and social rights to its citizens. Our movement further recognizes that such reform can only be driven by the citizens of China through the application of Gong Min Li Liang (公民力量 “Citizen power”) and through cooperative and unified action of all the diverse peoples that are under the rule of the Chinese government.

Initiatives for China is committed to sowing the seeds of truth, love, justice, freedom, and democracy in China, through the following means:

- Promoting principles of non-violent struggle;
- Raising awareness among Chinese citizens of their legal rights;
- Advancing further development of the Chinese Citizen Power Movement;
- Encouraging Chinese citizens to evaluate their government, affirm its achievements that have benefited the people of China and critique it when necessary; and
- Providing more overseas assistance in an effort to influence the policies of the PRC government.

All these efforts are undertaken in order to accomplish a peaceful transition to a democratic China through constitutional reform.

公民力量是致力於中國和平民主轉型的草根型運動。我們的運動基於這樣的信仰，即，和平民主轉型能夠通過改變本質上完全拒絕賦予公民政治和社會權利的現行政體結構來實現。我們進一步認識到，只有運用公民力量，通過在中共統治下所有種族人民的統一合作的行動，我們才能推動這一變革。

公民力量通過以下方式播散真理、愛、公義、自由和民主的希望種子：

- 倡導非暴力抗爭原則
 - 促進中國公民權利意識的覺醒
 - 支持中國公民運動的開展
 - 促進公民力量的成長和公民社會的發育，推動公民鑑政、外力壓政、借力參政
- 我們將通過以上努力，完成最終合力憲政的和平民主變革的進程。

