

The Rt Hon Liz Truss, MP  
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs  
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office  
King Charles Street  
London  
SW1A 2AH

24<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Foreign Secretary,

**RE: Undertaking an audit of the UK assets of Hong Kong and Chinese officials**

We are writing to urge the Government to undertake an audit of the UK assets of Hong Kong and Chinese officials who have been linked to gross human rights violations as a pathway to introducing targeted sanctions.

A recent [report](#) published by the UK-based NGO, Hong Kong Watch, has found that five Hong Kong officials and six lawmakers that are complicit in the ongoing human rights crackdown currently own property in the UK.

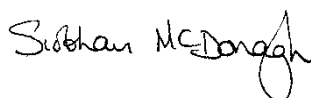
It cannot be right that these Hong Kong officials along with their Chinese counterparts who decry “Western interference” and openly attack the right of the UK to stand by its historic, legal, and, moral commitment to the people of Hong Kong, at the same time continue to hide their wealth in property in the UK.

We urge you to learn the lessons from the crisis in Ukraine and ensure that the UK Government has a better understanding of the bank accounts, property, and other UK assets owned by Chinese officials and Hong Kong officials implicated in human rights violations and breaches of the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

This would be in line with your recent speech at Mansion House, where you said that “access to the global economy must depend on playing by the rules”. Such an audit would serve not only as a way to highlight the hypocrisy of these authoritarian actors who abuse human rights, but also would provide the UK and our partners with necessary leverage over a regime that continues to destroy rights with impunity.

Furthermore, as we approach the second anniversary of the introduction of the draconian National Security law in Hong Kong, we hope that such an audit will serve as the basis for a Hong Kong specific sanctions list, which should include Hong Kong and Chinese officials responsible for the ongoing crackdown and destruction of the Hong Kong’s autonomy.

Yours sincerely,



**Siobhain McDonagh MP**

**Co-lead signatories:**

**Sir Iain Duncan Smith MP**

**Tom Tugendhat MP**

|                        |                        |                             |
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| Rushanara Ali MP       | Claire Hanna MP        | Alyn Smith MP               |
| Tahir Ali MP           | Emma Hardy MP          | Chris Stephens MP           |
| Mike Amesbury MP       | Helen Hayes MP         | Graham Stringer MP          |
| Steve Baker MP         | Dame Meg Hillier MP    | Sir Desmond Swayne MP       |
| Paul Blomfield MP      | Wera Hobhouse MP       | Alison Thewliss MP          |
| Sir Peter Bottomley MP | Dame Margaret Hodge MP | Stephen Timms MP            |
| Ben Bradshaw MP        | Dr Rupa Huq MP         | Catherine West MP           |
| Alan Brown MP          | Dan Jarvis MP          | Matt Western MP             |
| Chris Bryant MP        | Kim Johnson MP         | Dr Philippa Whitford MP     |
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