新聞稿 即時發放

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香港人權資訊中心譴責政府濫用國安法,壓制人權與法治

香港政府今日(24日)再次引用《香港國安法》對六名海外香港人發出通緝令,並對另外七名去年遭通緝的海外港人施加《維護國家安全條例》(《維安條例》)下的措施。香港人權資訊中心譴責當局將言論自由及和平政治倡議視為犯罪,濫用國家安全為藉口,違反《公民權利及政治權利國際公約》(《公約》)保障的人權。

中心強調,和平倡議和政治意見受《公約》保障,即使這些意見不為中國及香港政府接受,亦不構成國家安全威脅。當局不可以國家安全為由,壓制民主和人權倡議及批評政府和政治制度的聲音。

此外,中心關注保安局局長根據《維安條例》第89(4)條,吊銷律師郭榮鏗及任建峰的執業資格。此舉損害律師專業自治,威脅法治根基。律師專業獨立性是普通法體系和國際人權標準的重要組成部分,吊銷資格應僅限於最嚴重的不當行為,並需透過透明和公正的程式處理。當局此舉繞過獨立監管機構,破壞專業自治,令人深切憂慮。

同時,《國安法》第47條和《維安條例》第115條賦予行政長官干預司法程序的權力,包括頒發具約束力的證書及指定法官審理國安案件。這些措施連同免除陪審團、閉門審訊等做法,進一步削弱司法獨立,令行政機關得以左右司法判決,法治基石岌岌可危。

香港政府濫用國家安全法律的行為,不僅削弱法律制度公信力,亦暴露司法獨立及律師專業自治遭受政治威脅的實況。

香港人權資訊中心重申,聯合國人權高級專員、多個人權公約委員會、多名人權特別報告 員已多次批評《國安法》違反人權,要求撤回《國安法》及停止相關檢控。香港政府應接 納有關建議,並立即採取補救行動。

Press Release

For Immediate Release

From: Hong Kong Centre for Human Rights

Date: 24 December 2024 Contact: info@hkchr.org

Hong Kong Centre for Human Rights Condemns Government's Abuse of National Security Law to Suppress Human Rights and Rule of Law

The Hong Kong government today (24 December) once again invoked the *National Security Law* (NSL) to issue arrest warrants for six overseas Hongkongers and imposed measures under the *Safeguarding National Security Ordinance* (SNSO) on seven other overseas Hongkongers who were similarly targeted last year. The Hong Kong Centre for Human Rights strongly condemns the government for criminalising free expression and peaceful political advocacy, abusing national security as a pretext, and violating human rights protections under the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (ICCPR).

The Centre emphasises that peaceful advocacy and political opinions are protected under the ICCPR, even if such views are unwelcome by the Chinese and Hong Kong governments. These actions do not constitute threats to national security. The government must not suppress calls for democracy, human rights advocacy, or criticism of government and political systems under the guise of national security.

Additionally, the Centre expresses grave concern over the Secretary for Security's decision, under section 89(4) of the SNSO, to suspend Hong Kong lawyers Dennis Kwok and Kevin Yam's qualifications to practise law. This undermines the independence of the legal profession and threatens the foundation of the rule of law. The independence of the legal profession is a cornerstone of Hong Kong's common law system and a critical component of international human rights standards. Disbarment should be limited to the most serious cases of professional misconduct and must be carried out through transparent and fair procedures. The government's bypassing of independent regulatory bodies in this matter raises significant concerns about professional autonomy.

Moreover, NSL Article 47 and SNSO section 115 grant the Chief Executive powers to interfere in judicial processes, including issuing legally binding certificates on whether a matter involve national security, and designating judges for national security cases. Together with measures such as exempting jury trials and holding closed-door hearings, these provisions further erode judicial independence, enabling the executive branch to influence judicial outcomes and undermining the basic principles of the rule of law.

The Hong Kong government's continued abuse of national security laws not only weakens the credibility of Hong Kong's legal system but also exposes the real and growing political threats to judicial independence and professional autonomy in the legal sector.

The Hong Kong Centre for Human Rights reiterates that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, human rights treaty bodies, and UN special rapporteurs have repeatedly criticised the NSL for violating human rights. They have called for its repeal and an immediate cessation of related prosecutions. The Hong Kong government must heed these recommendations and take concrete remedial actions without delay.