

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO CHINA – ADD.1

BELGIUM

- Judging from its own point of view as emerging global power, how does the Government of the People’s Republic of China perceive its priority objectives in terms of human rights and the rule of law? What is its strategy to achieve those objectives?
- Does the Government of the People’s Republic of China consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court?
- Is the Government of the People’s Republic of China considering issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures and considering responding positively to the outstanding requests of special rapporteurs to visit the country?
- How many individuals are currently on death row? Of those, how many are foreign nationals?
- Would the People’s Republic of China consider publishing national statistics on death penalty sentences and executions, taking into account gender, location, ethnicity and other relevant characteristics?
- How many of those on death row have children, and how many children are affected in this way? What, if any, support is provided to these children?
- How many individuals have been sentenced to death and/or executed in the last four and half years since the People’s Republic of China’s last UPR? How many of those have/had children? How many are/were foreign nationals?
- Do family members, including children, of persons on death row have the right to visit (or if unable to visit to communicate in other ways)? If so, is the visiting/communication regime the same as that for other prisoners?
- Do family members have the right under national law to be informed of an execution before it takes place? If so, how are they informed and what is the notice period?
- Do children and other family members of a person sentenced to death have the right to a final meeting before an execution is carried out?
- How has the People’s Republic of China addressed the concern of the rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders about the arrest, detention and intimidation of human rights defenders in China, for peacefully exercising their right to freedom of expression, including their family members?

- How is the Government of the People's Republic of China investigating the allegations of torture and other forms of serious mistreatment by agents of the State as reported by alleged victims or their lawyers and implementing more rigorously existing legislation preventing such practices?

CANADA

- In 2009 during its UPR, China accepted a number of important recommendations:
 - a) China agreed to facilitate an early visit by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. What are China's plans to welcome the High Commissioner?
 - b) China agreed to adopt further measures to ensure universal access to health for rural communities. What steps is China planning to take to help achieve this important goal?
 - c) China committed to ensuring that ethnic minorities are able to enjoy their full range of human rights. What are the plans of the Government of China to enable people living in China to fully realize their political, cultural, religious, economic and linguistic rights?
- What actions are being considered by China in Xinjiang and the Tibet Autonomous Region to enable all people to peacefully exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, and religion and belief?
- Is China willing to extend an invitation for a visit by the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief? Are there plans underway to end criminal prosecutions and persecution of individuals and groups for the peaceful practice of their religion?
- Canada welcomes China's announcement in early 2013 that it is considering dismantling the Re-education Through Labour (RTL) program. What concrete steps have been taken thus far to achieve this aim? To what extent is China also considering abolishing other forms of administrative detention?
- Canada has concerns about the sex ratio imbalance in China, especially given the many negative impacts that can occur when large numbers of girls and women are missing from the population. Could China provide an update on current measures to address the imbalance in its population ratio?
- We appreciate China's commitment of ending the practice of harvesting organs from prisoners and support the implementation of "The China Organ Transplant response system." What steps is China taking to ensure that informed consent is obtained and the names and locations of donors are registered?
- What measures is China taking to ensure that allegations of violence and harassment against lawyers and individuals promoting respect for human rights are promptly investigated and perpetrators of such acts are held accountable?

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Could the delegation elaborate more on the process and timeframe of the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which China signed 15 years ago?

- Does the Government of China consider extending a standing invitation to all UN special procedures in the near future, including providing them with full and unhindered access to all regions of China?
- What efforts has the Government of China made to effectively combat torture and ill-treatment of persons in detention facilities, and to ensure that all perpetrators, including officials responsible for such acts, are brought to justice? Does the Government of China intend to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment?
- What steps has the Government of China taken to remove restrictions on freedom of expression, including on the Internet, and to ensure the independence of the media since its last UPR in 2009?
- What measures has the Government of China taken in order to strengthen the protection of religious and ethnic minorities, including their religious, cultural, civil as well as political rights?

MYANMAR

- What measures have been taken by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to ensure equal rights for the disabled persons in political participation and employment?