



# 中国人权研究会

## China Society for Human Rights Studies

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The China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS) is the largest national non-governmental organization in the field of human rights in China. It enjoys a special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and is a member of the United Nations Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO). It is included in the World Directory of Human Rights Research and Training Institutions compiled by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The CSHRS was founded in January 1993. The activities and tasks of the CSHRS are: studying the theories, history, and status of human rights in China and foreign countries; popularizing and publicizing human rights knowledge; engaging in international exchanges and cooperation; and promoting healthy development of human rights causes in China and the world as a whole. Its president is Luo Haocai, and the vice presidents are: Ye Xiaowen, Wan Exiang, Li Junru, Dong Yunhu and Chen Shiqiu. Mr. Lu Guangjin is secretary-general and Mr. Zhu Muzhi is honorary president.

The CSHRS is active in research into human rights. It has published dozens of books including *Overview of World Human Rights Instruments* and its continuation, *Enshrinement of Human Right in the Constitution and Guarantee of Human Rights by the Legal System*, *Guarantee of Human Rights in China's Prisons*, *On Human Rights and Sovereignty*. It has also organized the translation into Chinese and the publication in China of many books on human rights, including *Encyclopedia of Human Rights*, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights—A Common Standard of Achievement*, and *A Course in Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*.

The CSHRS endeavors to popularize human rights knowledge in an effort to raise the awareness of the importance of human rights throughout society. It had co-hosted with China National Public Radio a series of radio lectures titled "Talk about Human Rights", sponsored columns titled "100 Q&As on Human Rights knowledge" in the *People's Daily* and "China's Human Rights Panorama" in the *People's Daily Overseas Edition*, and compiled and published such educational materials as *100 Q&As on Human Rights knowledge* and *Reading Book on Human Rights Knowledge for Officials Cadres*. It had also organized relevant seminars and trainings of officials and law-enforcement personnel.

The CSHRS actively participates in international exchanges and cooperation in the field of human rights. It has held six sessions of Beijing Forum on Human Rights and many large multilateral international symposiums on human rights, and sent delegates to human rights conferences and other relevant activities held by the United Nations and other international organizations. Delegations organized by the CSHRS had visited about 15 countries and regions. The CSHRS had invited and received visitors including the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a delegation of the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Arrest, a delegation of the European Parliament, and human rights officials, experts and scholars from the US, Austria etc.

The CSHRS launched the China Human Rights Net ([www.humanrights.cn](http://www.humanrights.cn)) in 1998, and began to publish the bimonthly magazine *Human Rights* (in Chinese and English editions) in February 2002. It regularly publishes the

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research report *China's Human Rights in Action* and, irregularly, *Yearbook of Human Rights in China*.

The sources of the CSHRS' funds are mainly from the China Foundation for Human Rights Development, donations from other organizations and the public, and other lawful income.

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## **Contribution from China Society for Human Rights**

### **Studies (CSHRS) on UPR of the Lao PDR in the second cycle of review**

The CSHRS would like to submit information and recommendations regarding the promotion and protection of human rights in Lao PDR as part of stakeholders contribution. The CSHRS commented that the Lao Government has taken effective measures and worked hard to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Lao multi-ethnic people since the first cycle of the Lao PDR in 2010, in particular in the area of anti-human trafficking and human rights education and awareness raising.

#### **Anti-Human Trafficking**

According to the report from the Secretariat of the National Steering Committee on Anti Human Trafficking, the law enforcement agencies investigated 49 cases and convicted 37 alleged offenders in 2012. Between 2006 and 2012, 1,419 victims of trafficking were officially repatriated from neighboring countries to the Lao PDR. Of these, 1350 were female and 1,072 were girls and boys under 18 years old. Between 2006 and 2013, 362 female victims of human trafficking received medical care, rehabilitation, and vocational training in Lao PDR.

Lao PDR has adopted several laws and regulations to prevent and combat trafficking and assist its victims. The Law on Development and Protection of Women includes provisions on the prevention of trafficking of women and children, the rights of the victims, the obligations of society, the prosecution of offenders, and assistance to victims. Furthermore, all forms of trafficking in human beings are criminalized under Article 134 of the Penal Code. The Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Children also provides for protection and assistance from exploitation and stipulates the applicable sentences for trafficking in children.

According to its accepted recommendation, in November 2012, the Government of the Lao PDR adopted a National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and in the process of formulating a law on combating trafficking. Furthermore, Lao PDR is a joint signatory to Memorandum of Understanding of the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Human Trafficking (COMMIT) in 2004. Subsequently, Lao PDR has signed MOUs to prevent, combat and assist victims of trafficking with Thailand, Vietnam and China.

#### **Human Rights Education and Awareness Raising**

Dissemination and awareness raising on UPR and its recommendations have been organized at the central and local levels in the country by related line-ministries and organizations through series of seminars, workshops and lectures to government ministries and institutions, as well as the mass, social, professional, academic and research organizations, civil society organizations, which are directly or indirectly concerned with UPR implementation. Publication on UPR for the Lao PDR has distributed and made available.

Trainings on international law and human rights have been organized for government officials, law enforcement agencies, judges, lawyers, law school students at the central and local levels, civil society organizations and general public.

**Recommendations:**

The CSHRS would like to recommend the Government of the Lao PDR for the betterment of promotion and protection of human rights in the country as following:

A. The Lao PDR should continue its work and cooperation with neighboring countries and international organizations in the area of anti-human trafficking. Furthermore, the Law on Combating Human Trafficking should be adopted at a timely manner.

B. The Lao PDR should continue its efforts to provide human rights training and education to government officials both in the central and local levels, general public especially students in law schools and universities.