

The Japan Innovation Party Statement on the Situation in Hong Kong

Since June 2019, human rights and freedom have been jeopardized in Hong Kong through the collisions between the police and the protesters objecting to the enforcement of the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance amendment bill, which resulted in many casualties. Deeply concerned about such situation in Hong Kong, the Japan Innovation Party has issued an official statement seeking for a settlement through peaceful dialogues to the Governments of China and the Hong Konger in November, 2019 and submitted the draft resolution to the Japanese House of Councilors.

Japan and Hong Kong have built a close relationship through economic and cultural exchanges over years. We firmly believe that Hong Kong's prosperity under the principle of "One country, Two systems" will significantly contribute to the growth of the Asia-Pacific region including Japan.

The G7 Leaders' Declaration issued on August 26, 2019 reaffirmed the importance of the Sino-British Joint Declaration of 1984 on Hong Kong, which has guaranteed Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy.

However, the National People's Congress in China is about to pass the bill to introduce in Hong Kong a new national security law which heavily restricts the fundamental human rights of the citizens.

If China enacts such law, Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy and the principle of "One County, Two Systems", which have been secured since the handover in July 1997, will collapse. By introducing such law, critical speeches and protests against the Chinese Communist Party will be prohibited as in Mainland China, and consequently, freedom and democracy in Hong Kong will be shattered. We hereby express our deepest concerns about China's recent actions to attempt to strengthen its control over Hong Kong.

We stress upon the Government of China the importance of Hong Kong as free and open society under the principle of "One Country, Two Systems" and strongly appeal to the Chinese Government to withdraw its decision to introduce the national security law and refrain from further tightening control over Hong Kong.

We call for the Hong Kong act according to the universal values of modern society such as freedom, democracy, human rights, and rule of law, and not support the enactment of the national security law, which has not been approved by Hong Kong's legislative council.

We request the Government of Japan align itself with the countries of Europe and America which have strongly expressed their concerns, and push the Chinese Government to withdraw its decision to introduce the national security law in Hong Kong and maintain a free and open Hong Kong. We also request the Japanese Government secure Japanese companies and nationals in Hong Kong.

