



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China



立法會

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

來函檔號 YOUR REF :
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15 October 2019

Ms Carmen Cano
Head of European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao
19/F, St. John's Building
33 Garden Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Cano

Thank you for conveying the letter of 8 October 2019 from 12 Members of the European Parliament to the President of the Legislative Council. The President has directed me to seek your help to forward to those Members his attached reply.

Yours sincerely

(Dora WAI)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl: Reply dated 15 October 2019 to 12 Members of the European Parliament



立法會主席

PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

梁君彥, GBS, 太平紳士 Andrew Leung Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP

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15 October 2019

Maria Arena, S&D
Petras Auštrevičius, RENEW
Phil Bennion, RENEW
Reinhard Bütikofer, Greens/EFA
Viola von Cramon-Taubadel, Greens/EFA
Michael Gahler, EPP
Evelyne Gebhardt, S&D
Neena Gill, S&D
Klemen Grošelj, RENEW
Bernard Guetta, RENEW
Hannah Neumann, Greens/EFA
Giuliano Pisapia, S&D

European Parliament
ASP 08G162
B-1047 Brussels

Dear Members

Thank you for your letter dated 8 October 2019, which was forwarded to me by Ms Carmen Cano of the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao. In the letter, you expressed concern about what were perpetrated against some Members of the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“HKSAR”) and the difficult situation faced by Hong Kong in recent months.

The developments in Hong Kong arising from the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 (“the Bill”) have aroused grave public concern, both locally and internationally. It is distressing to see hitherto peaceful protests have deteriorated into persistent violence, including vandalism, arson and clashes between protestors and the police. As President of LegCo, I am also deeply concerned about some Members of LegCo who have been harassed, threatened or attacked by unknown persons or protestors and their offices being vandalized and damaged. I strongly condemn all violent acts that seek

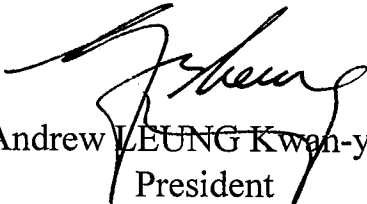
to spread fear and cause intimidation against not only Members of LegCo but also the general public.

The Chief Executive of HKSAR has announced that the Bill will be formally withdrawn in LegCo as soon as it resumes in October this year so as to allay public concerns. I have given permission to the Secretary for Security of the HKSAR Government to announce the withdrawal of the Bill at the earliest LegCo meeting scheduled for 16 October 2019. I understand that the current discontentment in Hong Kong extends far beyond the Bill, but this should not be turned into a pretext for violence. In my view, violence is in no way a solution to address the current predicament. It will only give rise to more violence and hatred, and ruin the rule of law, which has been a core value of Hong Kong as a civilized and inclusive city.

At this juncture, I hope to see the HKSAR Government continue to engage different segments of the community in a frank and open dialogue in order to mend the split in society and help Hong Kong find a pragmatic and feasible way out. With the new LegCo session commencing imminently, it is also time for political differences to be debated and resolved in a rational and orderly manner so that Hong Kong may ride out the present challenges.

The European Union is an old friend of Hong Kong. I would be grateful if you would help disseminate a clear message to the international community that violence will not help resolve the current conflicts in Hong Kong. I sincerely hope that we will work closer for mutual benefit of Hong Kong and the European Union.

With best regards


(Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen)
President
Legislative Council

c.c. Ms Carmen Cano,
Head of the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao