



## FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION NOW IN CHINA

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL





Your Excellency,

China's Constitution and international law guarantee the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly. Yet every year hundreds of people are detained in China for peacefully exercising these rights. Some are tried and imprisoned for "endangering state security" under vaguely worded criminal laws that have become tools for silencing critics and activists. Some demonstrations are broken up by excessive, even lethal, force.

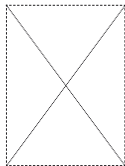
I urge you to do everything in your power to ensure freedom of expression, association and assembly in China. When policing demonstrations, law enforcement officials should exercise restraint, using firearms only as a last resort and when absolutely necessary to protect life.

I also urge you to ensure that international fair trial standards are upheld in law and practice in China.

Yours sincerely,

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_



**Premier  
WEN Jiabao Guojia Zongli  
The State Council General Office  
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*Image:* Protesters outside the Liaison office of China's Central Government in Hong Kong, February 2011. In response to online calls to protest, inspired by events in the Middle East and North Africa, the Chinese authorities detained dozens of activists. © AP Photo/Vincent Yu  
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