

URGENT ACTION

MISSING NGO WORKER RETURNS HOME

Zhuang Lu, a 27-year-old woman who worked for the Open Constitution Initiative (OCI, known as Gongmeng in Chinese), a legal aid and research organization, is now known to be staying at her parents' home in Fujian province, southeast China.

According to her friends, police in the Chinese capital, Beijing, sent Zhuang Lu back to Fujian province on 23 August, one day after she was released from police custody. She is currently staying at her parents' home and has had only limited contact with friends and family since her return to Fujian. Police have warned her not to speak to the media about her detention.

On 29 July, she was detained by police along with male lawyer Xu Zhiyong, the founder of the OCI, where she worked prior to her detention. Both were formally arrested on suspicion of "tax evasion" on 13 August. Beijing police released Zhuang Lu on 22 August. Xu Zhiyong was released on bail pending investigation on 23 August.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 230/09 (ASA 17/051/2009). Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA17/051/2009/en

Further information on UA: 230/09 Index: ASA 17/066/2009 Issue Date: 24 November 2009

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