



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing and Congressional-Executive Commission on China

Witness Biographies

China, Genocide and the Olympics

Panel I



Hon. Nancy Pelosi is the 52nd Speaker of the House of Representatives, having made history in 2007 when she was elected the first woman to serve as Speaker of the House. Now in her third term as Speaker, Pelosi made history again in January 2019 when she regained her position second-in-line to the presidency, the first person to do so in more than 60 years. As Speaker, Pelosi is fighting for the people, working to lower health care costs, increase workers' pay through strong economic growth and rebuilding America, and cleaning up corruption to make Washington work for all. For 33 years, Speaker Pelosi has represented San Francisco, California's 12th Congressional District, in Congress. She has led House Democrats for 17 years and previously served as House Democratic Whip. Pelosi brings to her leadership position a distinguished record of legislative accomplishment. She led the Congress in passing historic health insurance reform, key investments in college aid, clean energy and innovation, and initiatives to help small businesses and veterans. She has been a powerful voice for civil rights and human rights around the world for decades. Pelosi comes from a strong family tradition of public service in Baltimore. Married to Paul Pelosi, she is a mother of five and grandmother of nine.

Panel II



Dr. Yang Jianli is a world renowned scholar, human rights activist, and architect and leader for China's democracy. He immigrated to the United States following the Tiananmen Square protest in 1989. He is president of Citizen Power Initiatives for China, which he founded in 2007 on his release from prison in China, a pro-democracy movement committed to a peaceful transition to democracy in China. He firmly believes that it is critical for a peaceful democratic transition in China that the world's democracies continue to hold China accountable for abusing the human and political rights of its citizens. He has won numerous awards and holds several advisory positions in human rights advocacy organizations.



Susan V. Lawrence is a Specialist in Asian affairs at the Congressional Research Service, where her work focuses on the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. Immediately before joining CRS in 2010, Ms. Lawrence managed advocacy campaigns in China as part of a major philanthropic foundation's global public health initiative. Earlier in her career, she worked for a cumulative 11 years as a Beijing-based bureau chief and staff reporter for major U.S. publications.



Rayhan Asat is an attorney, Yale World Fellow, and senior fellow at the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights. Her brother Ekpar Asat, a 2016 participant in the State Department's International Visitors Leadership Program was disappeared upon returning to China, and is now reportedly serving 15 years in prison in China for trumped-up charge inciting ethnic hatred and ethnic discrimination. She is a frequent speaker at international forums and has testified before the Canadian, The United Kingdom, and Lithuanian Parliaments. She has been featured in the New York Times, BBC, CNN, The Hill, the Globe and Mail, among others. Ms. Asat's writing has also been published in many legal journals, and her opinions have appeared in Foreign Policy, NBC

News, and other prominent publications.



Samuel M. Chu is the founding and managing director of the Hong Kong Democracy Council, and a nationally recognized organizer for social change and a more democratic world. Mr. Chu was born and raised in Hong Kong and is the younger son of the Rev. Chu Yiu Ming, a veteran and leading pro-democracy organizer in Hong Kong. Previously, Mr. Chu was a fellow at the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at the University of Southern California. He was also the founding President of OneLA-Industrial Areas Foundation, one of the nation's largest broad-based organizing networks and served as the founding Executive Director of California Faith for Equality and California Faith for Equality Action Fund.



Reggie Littlejohn is Founder and President of Women's Rights Without Frontiers (WRWF), an international coalition to expose and oppose forced abortion, gendercide and sexual slavery in China. WRWF is the only organization inside rural China, saving baby girls and abandoned widows. Women's Rights Without Frontiers seeks to form a left-right, human rights and humanitarian coalition to end forced abortion and gendercide. An acclaimed international expert on China's One Child Policy, Ms. Littlejohn has testified eight times at the U.S. Congress, three times at the European Parliament, and she has presented at the British, Irish and Canadian Parliaments as well.



Dr. Sophie Richardson is the China director at Human Rights Watch. Dr. Richardson is the author of numerous articles on domestic Chinese political reform, democratization, and human rights in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Vietnam. She has testified before the European Parliament and the U.S. Congress. She has provided commentary to the BBC, CNN, the Far Eastern Economic Review, Foreign Policy, National Public Radio, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post. Dr. Richardson is the author of *China, Cambodia, and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence*.