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GERMANY

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Teresa Cheng, Department of Justice

Secretary for Justice’s Office

5th floor, Main Wing, Justice Place

18 Lower Albert Road, Central

**Hong Kong**, **CHINA**

## *nine leading members of the Hong Kong’s “umbrella movement”*

Dear Minister,

I was distressed to hear that **nine leading members of the** 2014 protests of Hong Kong’s umbrella movement for more democracy have been charged on the basis of vaguely specified crimes. Each of the mebers could be remanded in custody for up to seven years. Continuing punishment of known members of the umbrella movement has had negative consequences for freedom of speech and the right to assembly in Hong Kong.

Consequently, dear Minister, I call upon you respectfully to

* have the charges against the nine leading members of the campaign “Occupy Central with Love and Peace” and the umbrella movement dropped as the sole basis for the charges was that they exercised their rights to freedom of speech and peaceful assembly;
* put an end to the politically motivated punishments of peaceful protesters, the sole aim of which is to prevent their participation in peaceful assemblies and to silence any critical voices;
* revise the law to bring it in line with international human rights standards and hence to respect and protect freedom of speech and the right to assembly.

Yours faithfully